



Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
SUFCO Mine  
397 South 800 West  
Salina, UT 84654  
(435) 286-4880 Fax: (435) 286-4499

RECEIVED

NOV 17 2004

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

November 10, 2004

Permit Supervisor  
Utah Coal Regulatory Program  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*Incoming  
C/041/002*

Re: Second Submittal - Sealing South Portals M&RP Permit Amendment, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC,  
SUFCO Mine C/041/002

Dear Permit Supervisor:

The enclosed copy of a letter sent to the BLM addressing some of their questions to seal the South Portal area in more detail is being submitted to the Division for reference. Forms C1 and C2 are included.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mike Davis at (435) 286-4421.

Sincerely,  
CANYON FUEL COMPANY, LLC  
SUFCO Mine

*Kenneth E. May*  
Kenneth E. May  
Mine Manager

Encl.

cc: DOGM - Price Field Office  
DOGM Correspondence File

KEM/MLD:kb

**APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING**

**RECEIVED**  
**NOV 17 2004**  
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Permit Change  New Permit  Renewal  Exploration  Bond Release  Transfer

**Permittee:** CANYON FUEL COMPANY, LLC

**Mine:** SUFCO MINE

**Permit Number:** C/041/002

**Title:** Second Submittal - Sealing South Portals

**Description,** Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

The South Portals need to be sealed because the mine entries have deteriorated to a point were they are unsafe.

**Instructions:** If you answer yes to any of the first eight (gray) questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

- Yes  No 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Disturbed Area: 0.077  increase  decrease.
- Yes  No 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes  No 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area?
- Yes  No 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved?
- Yes  No 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond?
- Yes  No 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication?
- Yes  No 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information?
- Yes  No 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling?
- Yes  No 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes  No 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?  
*Explain:* \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes  No 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use?
- Yes  No 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2)
- Yes  No 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information?
- Yes  No 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area?
- Yes  No 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement?
- Yes  No 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities?
- Yes  No 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities?
- Yes  No 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures?
- Yes  No 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation?
- Yes  No 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring?
- Yes  No 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided?
- Yes  No 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream?
- Yes  No 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities?

**Please attach four (4) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit five (5) copies, thank you.** (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

KENNETH E. MAY, MINE MANAGER  
Print Name

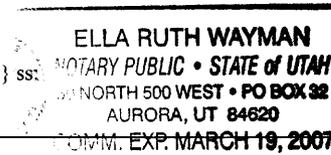
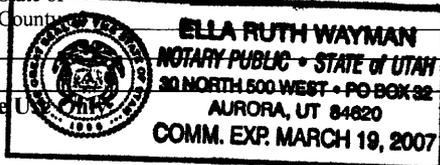
*Kenneth May* Mine Manager 10/16/04  
Sign Name, Position, Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, 20 04

*Ella Ruth Wayman*  
Notary Public

My commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: State of \_\_\_\_\_ } ss: \_\_\_\_\_  
County of \_\_\_\_\_ }



For Office Use

Assigned Tracking Number:

Received by Oil, Gas & Mining





**CF** Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
SUFCA Mine  
397 South 800 West  
Salina, UT 84654  
(435) 286-4880 Fax: (435) 286-4499

October 20, 2004

Mr. James F. Kohler  
Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155

Dear Mr. Kohler,

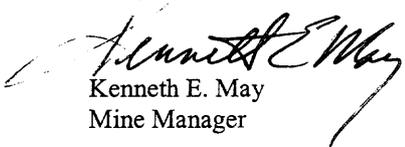
It has become necessary to seal the South Portals at Sufco Mine. The roof conditions are poor and continue to deteriorate. The attached map shows the locations where the seals will be constructed. The seals will be constructed using one of the two methods approved in the mine ventilation plan. Pages 6,7,8 and 39 from the ventilation plan are included with this submittal for your reference.

The South Portals have the highest elevation of any of the portals at Sufco. The area to be sealed is also very dry. As a result, water is not expected to be a problem with these seals. A drainpipe will be placed in one of the four seals on the mine side with the lowest elevation as per MSHA regulations.

The portals will be reclaimed as specified in the DOGM approved Mining and Reclamation Plan for Sufco. This project has also been submitted to DOGM for approval.

If you have questions please contact Weston Norris, Craig Hilton or myself.

Sincerely,  
CANYON FUEL COMPANY  
SUFCA Mine

  
Kenneth E. May  
Mine Manager



D. Construction and Use of Ventilation Controls

1. Intentional changes to the ventilation system air quantities shall be made to meet air quantity requirements of this ventilation plan when a mechanized mining unit or longwall mining system is moved from one section to another. These section moves are shown on the ventilation map as projections of anticipated mine development. Proposed ventilation controls, bleeder systems, and the anticipated locations of intake and return air courses, belt entries, and escapeways are shown for each development.
2. Permanent stoppings shall be erected between the intake and return air courses and shall be maintained to and including the fourth connecting crosscut outby the face of the entries. After a belt move is made, stopping(s) shall be erected in a diligent manner and sealing of the stopping(s) shall be completed within 36 section working hours. However, if the belt entry is the secondary escapeway, the stopping(s) separating the intake and beltway shall be completed before the belt is returned to operation.
3. Stoppings separating longwall belt intake from the main intake escapeway may be taken out up to two crosscuts outby the section loading point. Two open crosscuts are necessary to allow introduction of additional intake air onto the face and for safe handling of idlers, water line and cable as the section retreats.
4. Stoppings may be constructed with compressible fire-retardant treated or substantially incombustible material forming a maximum 12-inch thick layer at the top of the stopping. This layer shall be timbers, phenolic foam blocks, or other MSHA accepted materials covered with an MSHA accepted fire retardant sealant. These materials may also be used to fill in voids between the ribs and the stoppings where necessary.

E. Construction and Use of Seals

1. Seals will be constructed in accordance with 30 CFR 75.335(a)(1) except as described below, and maintained to minimize leakage.

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2. The quantity and velocity of the air current used to ventilate a seal shall be sufficient to dilute, render harmless, and carry away flammable, explosive, noxious, and harmful gases. The mine atmosphere at any seal shall have a minimum oxygen content of at least 19.5% and a methane content of less than 2% for return seals and 1% for intake seals. Tests for these methane and oxygen contents shall be conducted in the manner specified in 30 CFR 75.323(a).
3. Cementitious foam seals may be installed in accordance with 30 CFR 75.335(a)(2). Construction shall comply with the requirements of 30 CFR 75.335(b) and (c) as well as the following parameters:
  - a. All loose material on ribs and floor must be removed down to competent strata with no dust on roof, rib, or floor.
  - b. All water must be removed from the seal area.
  - c. Seal shall be at least four feet thick or one-half of the height, whichever is greater.
  - d. The seal shall be located at least 10 feet from the corner of the pillar at the time of initial installation.
  - e. Brattice cloth and forms shall be left in place for the duration of the seal life unless a face coat of a suitable sealant is applied.
  - f. Water used for mixing cementitious foam must be 60°F or greater.
  - g. To ensure proper contact at the mine roof, at least three multiple injection ports shall be used.
  - h. Water traps (if required) shall be blocked on the bottom, joints screwed and glued, and have a minimum 6 inches vertical extension.
  - i. The material used as cementitious foam must be 200 psi compressive strength TekFoam or other product recognized by MSHA as an equivalent material.

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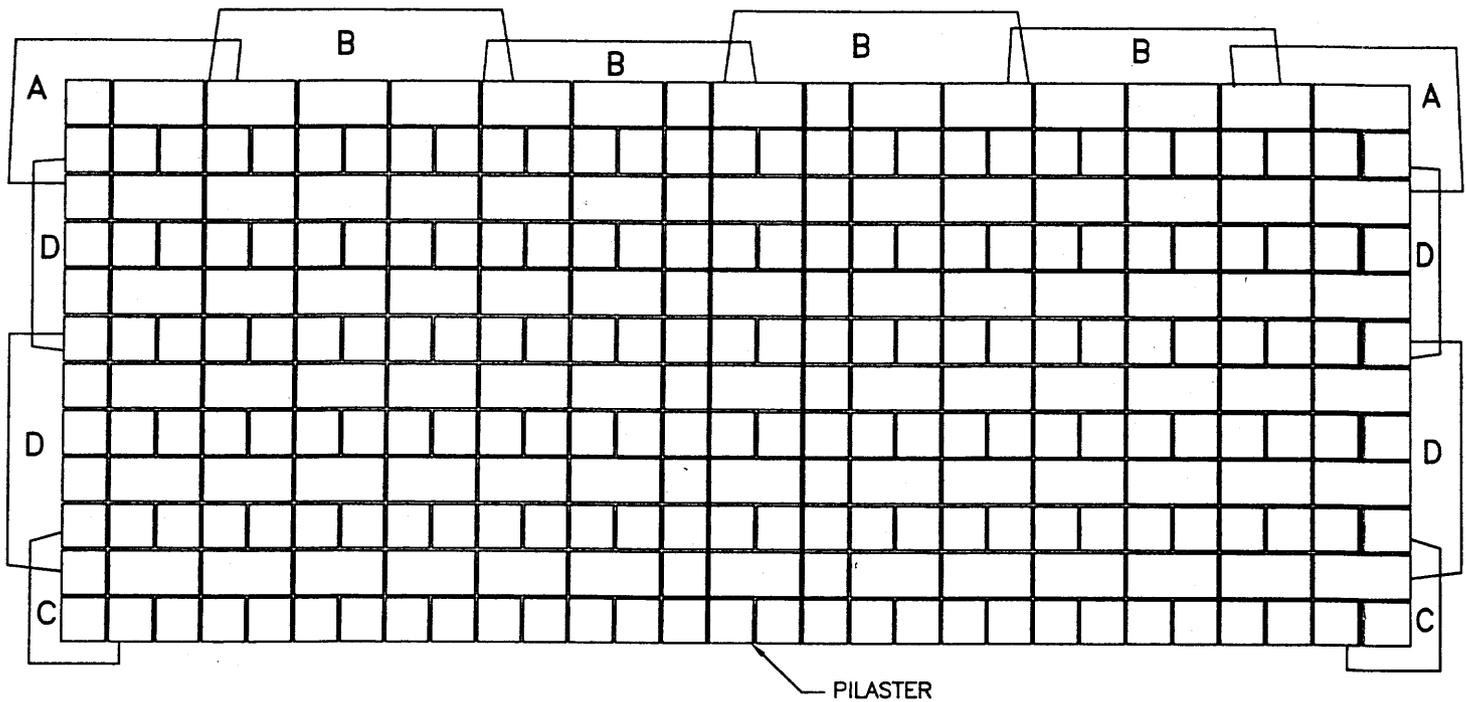
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- j. A minimum of 9 representative compressive strength samples shall be taken and tested by an independent laboratory after a 28-day cure. The mean of the samples must be at least 200 psi, the minimum values must be greater than 100 psi, and the lower confidence level for the mean (80% confidence limit) must be greater than 150 psi.
- 4. Seal/dams may be installed in accordance with 30 CFR 75.335(a)(2). A typical seal/dam construction is shown in Drawing VS-1.
- 5. Packsetter pre-loaded block seals may be installed in accordance with 30 CFR 75.335(a)(2) as specified in Drawing VS-3.

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**INSTALLATION PROCEDURES**

1. SEALS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED WITHOUT HITCHING, CONFORMING TO THE SPECIFICATIONS OF 30 CFR 75.335 AND THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION PROCEDURES. INITIAL SEALS SHALL BE INSET AT LEAST 10' FROM THE PILLAR CORNER. ALL LOOSE MATERIAL SHALL BE REMOVED TO COMPETENT STRATA BEFORE SEAL CONSTRUCTION. THE SEAL INSTALLATION LOCATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED FREE OF WATER ACCUMULATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION.
2. THE SEAL SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED USING CROSS-COURSED ROWS OF TONGUE AND GROOVE INTER-LOCKED SOLID BLOCK ALTERNATING WITH ROWS OF SMOOTH SOLID BLOCK, LAID IN A TRAVERSE PATTERN WITH MORTAR BETWEEN ALL JOINTS. ALL BLOCKS SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 16"x8"x8", EXCEPT PERIMETER BLOCKS SHALL BE SIZED TO FIT AS NEEDED. THE MINIMUM SEAL THICKNESS IS 16".
3. AT LEAST ONE PILASTER SHALL BE INCLUDED ON ALL SEALS UP TO 10' IN HEIGHT. TWO PILASTERS SHALL BE INCLUDED ON SEALS BETWEEN 10' AND 12' IN HEIGHT. THE PILASTER(S) SHALL BE AT LEAST 16"x32" AND INTERLOCKED NEAR THE CENTER OF THE SEAL. NO SEALS SHALL BE BUILT GREATER THAN 12 FEET IN HEIGHT.
4. A SPACING OF AT LEAST 2", BUT NO MORE THAN 5" SHALL BE LEFT BETWEEN THE SEAL WALL AND THE ROOF AND RIBS FOR THE PLACEMENT OF GROUT BAGS. NO HITCHING IS REQUIRED. GAPS UP TO 8" MAY BE FILLED BY DOUBLING PACKSETTER BAGS OR BY THE USE OF SPACER BAGS.
5. PACKSETTER BAGS SHALL BE PLACED AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE SEAL WALL AS SHOWN. BAGS SHALL BE CENTERED ON THE SEAL WALL, OVERLAPPING THE FRONT AND BACK BY 3". BAGS SHALL OVERLAP ADJACENT BAGS BY 6", AND SHALL EXTEND 6" UNDER THE LOWER CORNERS OF THE WALL.
6. ALL PACKSETTER BAGS SHALL BE PUMPED WITH PACKSETTER GROUT TO A MINIMUM OF 250 KPA AND A MAXIMUM OF 300 KPA, AS READ ON THE IN-LINE PRESSURE GAUGE ON THE HOSE OF THE PACKSETTER GROUT PUMP. BAGS SHALL BE PUMPED IN THE SEQUENCE SHOWN, BEGINNING WITH THOSE LABELED "A" THROUGH THOSE LABELED "D".
7. AIR SAMPLE AND WATER PIPES SHALL BE INSTALLED AS REQUIRED BY 30 CFR 75.335.
8. AN MSHA APPROVED GENERAL PURPOSE SEALANT SHALL BE APPLIED TO THE SURFACES OF EACH SEAL.

**APPROVED**

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Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
SUFCA Mine

**ALTERNATE SEALING METHOD  
PACKSETTER PRE-LOADED BLOCK SEALS**

DATE: NOV. 09, 2000

SCALE: NTS

397 SOUTH 800 WEST  
SALINA, UTAH 84654

DRAWN BY: BDH

FILENAME: H:\DRAWINGS\MSHA\VENTPLAN\VS-3.DWG