

C/041002 Incoming



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Green River District  
Price Field Office  
125 South 600 West  
Price, UT 84501  
<http://www.blm.gov/>

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FEB 15 2018

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

In Reply Refer To:  
3482 (UTG023)  
SL-062583 (Lead Mine Lease #)  
UTU-73341 (LMU #)  
U-63214 (Lease Affected)  
U-062453 (Lease Affected)

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
No. 7017 0660 0000 0468 4287

Mr. John D. Byars  
General Manager  
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
SUFCO Mine  
397 South SR 24  
Salina, Utah 84654

**Re: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan Minor Modification, Further Revision of 3 Right 4 East Longwall Panel, SUFCO Mine**

Dear Mr. Byars:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Price Field Office, has received a request from Canyon Fuel Company, LLC (Canyon Fuel), to modify the approved resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2) for the SUFCO Mine. The modification is to slightly revise the recently approved 3 Right 4 East (3R4E) longwall panel as a result of exploration drilling encountering oxidized coal at the southeast corner of the planned longwall panel. The affected area is located on Federal coal leases U-63214 and U-062453, which are part of the SUFCO Logical Mining Unit (LMU) UTU-73341.

**Background and Proposed Plan:** On January 18, 2018, the BLM issued a final approval to modify the R2P2 to mine a longwall panel, 3R4E, in place of four room and pillar no subsidence panels at the SUFCO Mine. Concurrence from the United States

Forest Service and permit approval from Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining have also been given. While awaiting these approvals, Canyon Fuel completed in-mine directional exploratory drilling in the proposed panel and encountered oxidized coal in the southeast corner of this panel near the coal outcrop to Quitcupah Canyon. To avoid this oxidized coal area, Canyon Fuel proposes to angle the development entries away from this southeast oxidized coal area and reverse the longwall extraction to west to east. This keeps the longwall set up room and bleeder entries away from the oxidized coal area and minimizes the longwall area that must be cut off to avoid this area.

**Analysis & Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) Determination:** The BLM agrees with the proposal as a logical layout plan for this longwall panel with the encountered oxidized coal in the southeast corner. As this oxidized coal area cut off the southeast corner of the originally planned longwall panel, the proposed layout will avoid this area and thus will achieve MER of the Federal coal.

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**Approval:** This letter authorizes Canyon Fuel to adjust the previously approved plan for the development and mining of 3R4E longwall panel as shown on the enclosed approved mine map. This approval is subject to all requirements and plans from the Mine Health and Safety Administration (MSHA). As part of this approval, please submit within 60 days drilling data from the in-mine exploratory drilling that shows the oxidized coal area for our file records.

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**Recoverable Coal Reserves:** The Federal recoverable coal reserves for three affected leases, U-062453, U-63214, and U-28297, are adjusted from the original room and pillar mining to the final alignment of the longwall panel. The net changes are shown in the chart below and includes the change from room and pillar to the original longwall panel as shown on the attached original map and the change to the final longwall reconfiguration as shown on the approved revised map. It also includes increased longwall mining height tonnage resulting from different equipment, which increases the overall longwall coal recovery:

Lease	Existing Recoverable Coal Reserves (tons)	Recoverable Coal Reserves Deleted or Added by Modification (tons)	New Recoverable Coal Reserves (tons)
SL-062583	24,574,745	0	24,574,745
U-062453	3,166,863	+203,708	3,370,571
U-0149084	1,017,786	0	1,017,786
U-28297	3,503,419	-35,602	3,467,817
U-47080	16,245,323	0	16,245,323
U-63214	65,247,024	-151,358	65,095,666
UTU-76195	24,592,059	0	24,592,059
LMU UTU-73341	138,347,219	+16,748	138,363,967

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**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):** No new surface disturbance is predicted with this plan change, and therefore this action is categorically excluded from NEPA analysis under DM 516 chapter 11.5, paragraph F. (8): Approval of minor modifications to, or minor variances from, activities described in an approved underground or surface mine plan for leasable minerals (e.g., change in mining sequence or timing).

The BLM has determined that this modification to the R2P2 complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. An approved copy of the proposed mine map is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Rigby (435-636-3604).

Sincerely,



Chris Conrad  
Field Manager

Enclosures: Original 3R4E Longwall Map  
Approved Revised 3R4E Longwall Mine Map

cc: Green River District (w/encl.)

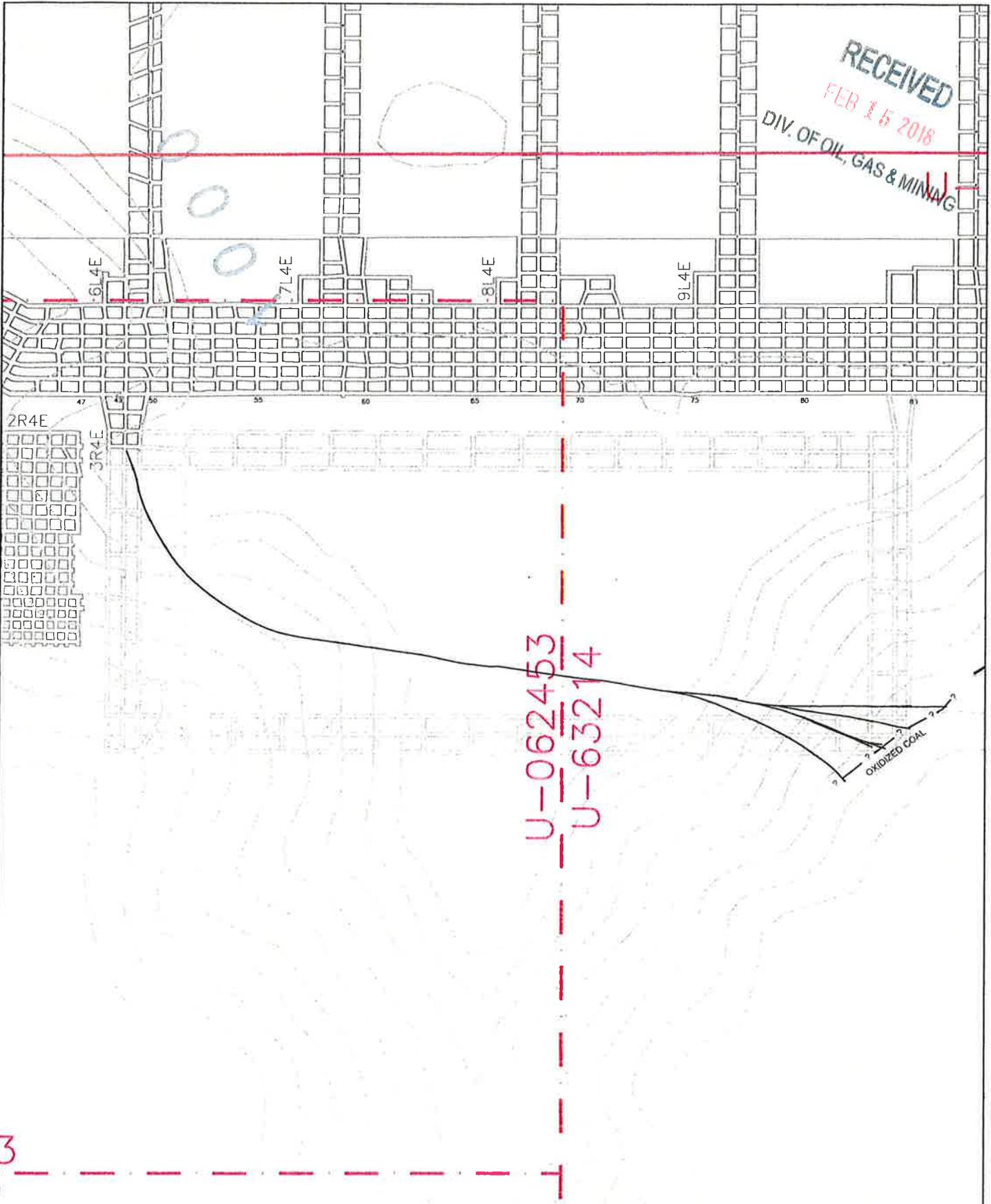
Utah State Office (UT-920) (w/encl.)

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (w/encl.)  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Mine Safety and Health Administration (w/encl.)  
P. O. Box 25367  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0376

Manti-LaSal National Forest (e/encl.)  
599 West Price River Drive  
Price, UT 84501

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Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
 SUFCO Mine  
 597 South SR 24 - Salina, UT 84654  
 (435) 286-4880 Phone  
 (435) 286-4499 Fax

<b>SUFCO MINE</b>		
<b>3R4E DRILLING RESULTS</b>		
SCALE: 1" = 600'	DATE: 10/5/2017	DRAWN BY: AMR
ENGINEER: AMR	CHECKED BY: JDS	PROJ:
FILE NAME: P:\GOVT2017\BLM\dwg\R2P2_3R4E\3R4E_Reversed.dwg		

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U-062453  
U-63214

MINOR MODIFICATION TO  
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:  
*Steven W. Falk* 2/7/18  
Mining Engineering (Date)

Approved By:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager (Date)

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Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
SUFCO Mine  
597 South SR 24 - Salina, UT 84654  
(435) 286-4880 Phone  
(435) 286-4499 Fax

SUFCO MINE

3R4E REVISED PANEL LAYOUT

SCALE: 1" = 600'	DATE: 10/5/2017	DRAWN BY: AMR
ENGINEER: AMR	CHECKED BY: JDS	PROJ:
FILE NAME: P:\GOVT2017\BLM\dwg\R2P2_3R4E\3R4E_Reversed.dwg		

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