



# 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/utah>

In Reply Refer To:  
3482(UT023)  
UTU-73341 (LMU)  
SL-062583 (Lead Mine Lease)  
U-63214 (Lease Affected)

OCT 09 2019

RECEIVED

OCT 11 2019

DIV OF OIL, GAS & MINING

CERTIFIED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED:

No. 7016 2710 0000 2322 2742

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

Re: Minor Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), 1 Right 6 West Longwall Panel, 6 West Longwall District, SUFCO Mine

Dear Mr. Byars:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received Canyon Fuel Company's (CFC) request for a minor modification to the existing R2P2 to revise the 1 Right 6 West (1R6W) longwall panel at the SUFCO Mine. Due to an encountered rock parting in the coal seam, the length of the 1R6W longwall panel will need to be shortened. The affected area is located on Federal coal lease U-63214 which is part of the SUFCO Logical Mining Unit (LMU) UTU-73341.

**Background and Proposed Plan:** The current R2P2 planned for three longwall panels at the east end of the 6 West Mains. In developing the second panel, 2 Right 6 West, a rock split or parting was encountered in the northwest corner of the panel that was trending on a southwest-northeast orientation. In developing the next west panel, 1R6W, this rock split was again encountered on the same heading. CFC proposes to shorten the longwall panel to the length of where the rock split was encountered and turn the set up room at crosscut 15. The thickness of the coal below the rock split is less than the minimum mining height of the longwall machinery. To keep the longwall from cutting rock and producing unacceptable quality of coal, CFC plans to set the longwall up away from the rock split.

**Analysis & Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) Determination:** The BLM has witnessed and verified the conditions of the 1R6W entries during the inspections of 3/28/19 and 5/14/19. The BLM agrees with the proposal. As the coal north of crosscut 15 is not recoverable due to

coal quality limits (total ash from the rock split), granting the R2P2 modification would still achieve MER of the recoverable federal coal.

**Recoverable Coal Reserves:** As a result of shortening the 1R6W longwall panel, CFC estimates 171,200 tons of coal is now not recoverable due to the rock split. All of this area is located in Federal coal lease U-63214 and thus the recoverable coal reserve base is reduced by that amount. The recoverable coal reserves for all the leases in the LMU needs to be updated as revised mining plans for the western 6 West district and the Pines east district are formulated. We will be in contact with you with ways to proceed to update the recoverable coal reserve base.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):** No new surface disturbance is predicted with this R2P2 modification, and thus this action is Categorically Excluded from analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act in 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).

CFC's submission to modify the R2P2 for the 1R6W longwall is approved as submitted. This modification of the R2P2 complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve Maximum Economic Recovery of the Federal coal. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk at (435) 636-3605.

Sincerely,



Chris Conrad  
Field Manager

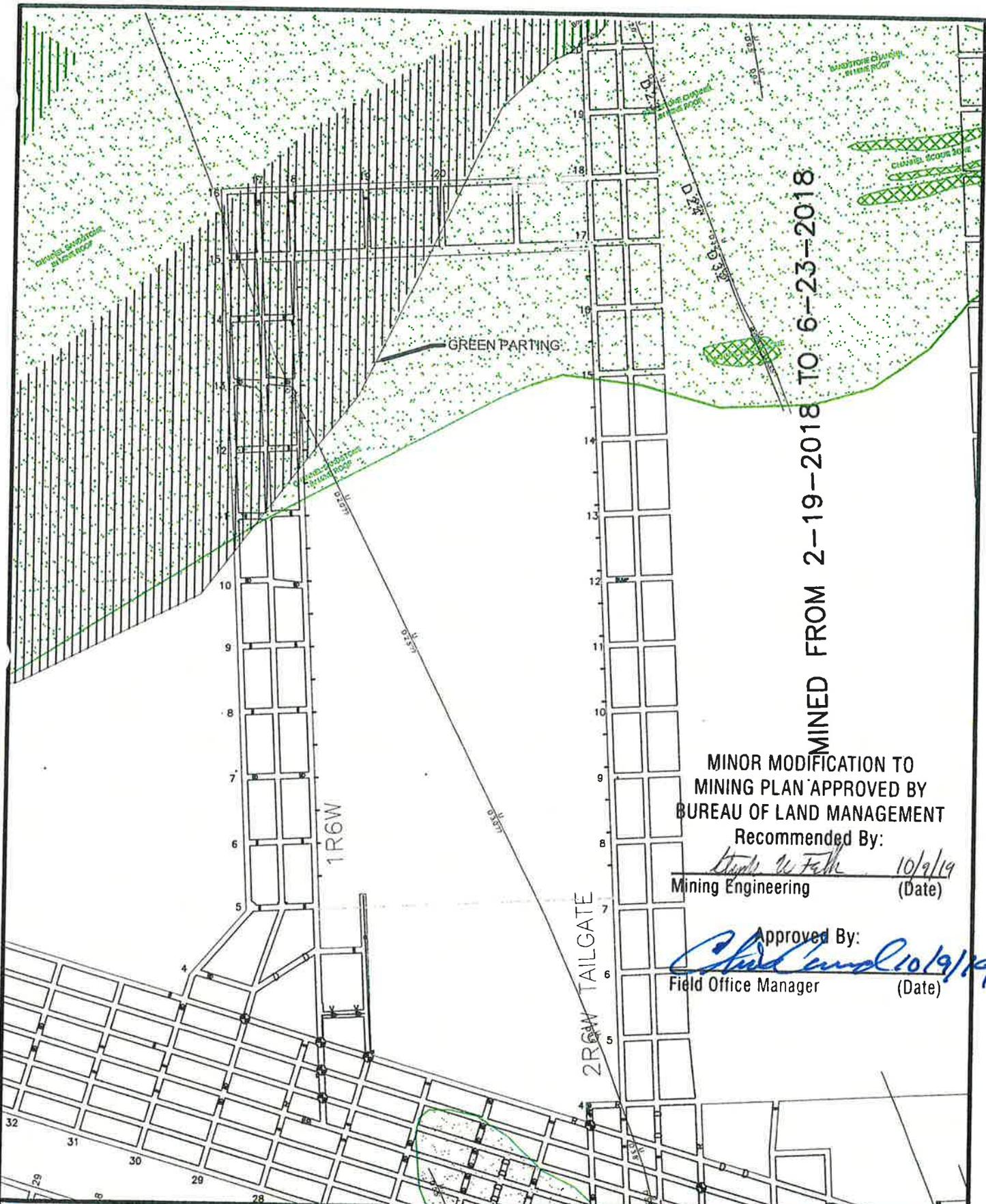
Enclosures

Approved 1R6W Longwall Mine Map

cc: Green River District (w/encl.)

Utah State Office (w/encl.)

Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (w/encl.)  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116



MINED FROM 2-19-2018 TO 6-23-2018

MINOR MODIFICATION TO  
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:  
*Stephen W. Felt* 10/9/19  
Mining Engineering (Date)

Approved By:  
*Chris Lund* 10/9/19  
Field Office Manager (Date)

5/14/2019 12:57 PM



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

**SUFCO MINE - 6 WEST R2P2**  
**1R6W PANEL GEOLOGY**

SCALE: 1" = 400'	DATE: 5/14/2019	DRAWN BY: AMR
ENGINEER:	CHECKED BY:	PROJ:
FILE NAME: H:\DRAWINGS\_MINEMAPS\BaseMap.dwg		

SHEET NO.

**1**