

U. S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
100 Bluestone Road  
Mount Hope, WV 25880-1000



SEP 05 2008

*DEWIA!*

Mr. Chris Blanchard  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Blanchard:

Subject: Mine Ventilation Plan, Section 75.370, 30 CFR 75, Upper  
Big Branch Mine - South, I.D. No. 46-08436, Performance  
Coal Company, Montcoal, Raleigh County, West Virginia

This will acknowledge receipt of a revision to the ventilation plan, submitted to this office and dated May 22, 2008, showing the proposed ventilation change to convert the #2 entry of North Mains from return air to intake air, beginning near the No. 4 Belt drive and extending inby to the No. 6 Belt drive, and to convert the #1 entry of the North Mains Parallel from intake air to return air. The revision is shown on a portion of the mine map, dated May 22, 2008, and submitted with the request.

The revision cannot be approved as submitted and is hereby denied. Please refer to the attached copy of the submittal map which has been marked-up with corrections and comments that need addressed prior to re-submittal.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Ventilation Department at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

*/s/ ROBERT G. HARDMAN*

Robert G. Hardman  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

Cc: Mt. Hope Field Office (3 incl.)  
Files/nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*Re 9/4/08*  
Initials *gm* 9/4 Date

U. S. Department of Labor

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100 Bluestone Road  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert G. Hardman", is positioned above the typed name.

Robert G. Hardman  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4



# Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

May 22, 2008

Mr. Robert G. Hardman  
District Manager  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
100 Bluestone Road  
Mt. Hope, West Virginia 25880-0112

RE: Performance Coal Company - Upper Big Branch Mine-South  
Federal I.D. 46-08436, State I. D. U-3042-92 - Ventilation Plan

Dear Mr. Hardman:

Performance Coal Company, Upper Big Branch Mine-South (ID 46-08436), requests approval of a revision to our ventilation plan to change the No. 2 entry of North Mains from a return air course to an intake air course starting near No.4 belt head and extending inby to near the No.6 belt head. Additionally, we want to change the No.1 entry of North Mains Parallel from an intake air course to a return air course starting near No. 6 belt head and extending outby to near No.4 belt head. These changes are shown on the attached mine map. Also, the necessary ventilation controls to be installed and removed to complete this change are shown. All the provisions set forth in 30 CFR 75-324 will be followed.

Your timely review and approval of this revision would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, or require further information, please call me at (304) 854-1761.

Respectfully Submitted,

Performance Coal Co.  
George T. Levo  
Mining Engineer

*Include  
miners representative statement.*

MSHA  
MOUNT HOPE, WV

MAY 23 2008

RECEIVED  
VENTILATION