

U. S. Department of Labor

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



FEB 06 2009

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 the 4th submittal of the annual ventilation map, dated January 15, 2009, and received by MSHA on January 16, 2009 for the subject mine. The ventilation plan continues to be approved and includes the following revision: **Typical face sketch for retreat mining, maintain permanent stopping's up to, but not including, the third connecting crosscut outby the working face. A minimum of 13,500 CFM in the last open crosscut when crosscut is three crosscuts inby the last permanent stopping, shows ventilation controls to be installed/removed for ventilation scheme to add new mining section (062-0 and 063-0MMUs) in the North 1 Belt area of the subject mine.**

Additionally, the longwall panels located in the North area of the mine will require a ventilation revision prior to implementation of the bleeder system.

The following items, which you included on the map, are approved under Section 75.371: **Existing and proposed evaluation points as shown on the map, both underground and surface.**

You are reminded that pursuant to Section 75.372, three copies of an up-to-date mine map shall be submitted to this office **February 14, 2009.**

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

Sincerely,

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

Initials

rac 2/5/09
jm 2/5

D.

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



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President
Performance Coal Company
P. O. Box 69
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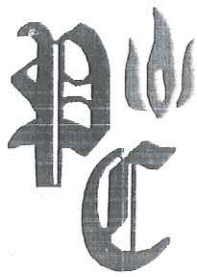
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Sincerely,

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



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

January 15, 2009

Mr. Robert G. Hardman
Mine Safety and Health Administration
100 Bluestone Road
Mt. Hope, WV 25880

Re: Upper Big Branch Mine
MSHA ID 46-08436
State Permit U-3042-92
Annual Ventilation Map

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for your review and approval, please find three (3) copies of the Annual Ventilation Map for Upper Big Branch Mine. An overlay map attachment is also included.

If you should have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

At this time, Performance Coal Company, Inc. does not have a miners' representative at this mining operation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Performance Coal Company

Eric Lilly
Mine Engineer

MSHA
MOUNT HOPE, WV

JAN 16 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION