



APR 27 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 a revision to the ventilation plan, originally dated March 25, 2009, received by MSHA on April 07, 2009, and resubmitted on April 20, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision includes three maps depicting; (1) the current ventilation; (2) the cut through of the angle mains into the headgate and continuing to develop the headgate with MMU 029-0 and MMU 030-0; and (3) the Set-Up Face ventilation to allow longwall equipment to be installed. In addition, this revision will supersede the previous revision approved on March 27, 2009.

The revision is hereby approved and will be made a part of the approved ventilation plan for this mine. This approval is limited to the requested change as described in the submittal letter and shown on the sketch.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert G. Hardman", is written over the typed name.

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



APR 27 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 a revision to the ventilation plan, originally dated March 25, 2009, received by MSHA on April 07, 2009, and resubmitted on April 20, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision includes three maps depicting; (1) the current ventilation; (2) the cut through of the angle mains into the headgate and continuing to develop the headgate with MMU 029-0 and MMU 030-0; and (3) the Set-Up Face ventilation to allow longwall equipment to be installed. In addition, this revision will supersede the previous revision approved on March 27, 2009.

The revision is hereby approved and will be made a part of the approved ventilation plan for this mine. This approval is limited to the requested change as described in the submittal letter and shown on the sketch.

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

Sincerely,
/s/ Lincoln L. Selfe

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

cc: Mt. Hope Field Office
Inspector
Field Office Supervisor (Letter Only)
Files/nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials RLC Date 4/24/09



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

April 16, 2009

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

Re: Performance Coal Company
Upper Big Branch Mine
MSHA ID : 46-08436
State ID: U-3042-92
Ventilation Revision

Dear Sir:

Please find the enclosed ventilation revision for the Upper Big Branch Mine for your review and approval. This submittal includes three maps depicting different ventilation schemes at different times in the mining cycle. Map number one shows the ventilation at the current time. Maps number two and three depict mining once the angle entries have cut into the No. 1 North Headgate.

Map two shows the ventilation scheme just after the angle entries cut into the headgate. During this time, the center entries of the angled mains will continue to be ventilated using neutral air while track and belt are recovered. Also at this time MMU 040-0 will be deactivated and the remainder of the headgate panel will be mined using MMU's 029-0 and 030-0.

Map three depicts ventilation to be used once the recovery is completed. Also during this time the Set-Up Face will be supplied with an intake split to allow longwall equipment to be installed.

This revision will supercede the previous revision approved on March 27, 2009.

Performance Coal Company does not currently have a miner's representative. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (304) 854-3516.

Respectfully Submitted,
Performance Coal Company, Inc.

Eric Lilly
Mine Engineer

MSHA
MOUNT HOPE, WV

APR 17 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION

Comments/Questions on UBB (46-08436) LW Line Diagram

Retreat of LW Panel 1

- Where will air be controlled/evaluated on HG, inby set-up entries?
- Will the return (#3 entry of HG) from CM units be isolated and traveled inby the LW face to the exhaust fan?
- Why a separate return split up the #1 entry of TG? This split is actually intake air originating at the mouth - input 'Q' to bleeder and where controlled?

Retreat of LW Panel 2

- How will area inby set-up entries, and inby exhausting fan, be ventilated? How will airflow be controlled and evaluated? Also, once the LW Panel 3 face is retreated outby the set-up entries of Panel 2, how will the entries and gob area of Panel 3 be ventilated?
- Once the Panel 2 face has retreated outby the set-up entries for LW Panel 1, how will the airflow be controlled (controls in barrier) and evaluated ?

Comments/Questions on UBB (46-08436) LW Line Diagram

Development of Entries and Panels:

- Is all return for longwall headgate and tailgate development coursed to the new fan shaft?
- Are Panel No. 1 Crossover and Panel No. 2 Crossover going to be developed and when?
- How many panels will be developed in the District?

