

U. S. Department of Labor

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



MAY 15 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, submitted to this office and dated April 9, 2009, showing the controls to be removed in order to provide more intake entries in the Parallel North Mains.

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

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 (3incl.)
Files/nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials gm 3/15 Date

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert G. Hardman".

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