



MAY 29 2009

Mr. Chris Blanchard
President
Performance Coal Company
POB 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, 19 2009. The revision is to convert entries within the Lower Big Branch section of the mine to intake airways Parallel North Mains LBB #1, 2, 3, 4 panels.

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 RLC Date 5/28/09
for JMacKoustak

U. S. Department of Labor

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



MAY 29 2009

Mr. Chris Blanchard
President
Performance Coal Company
POB 69
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Blanchard:

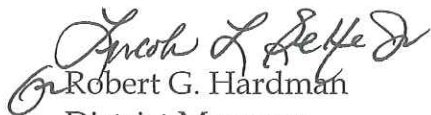
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Big Branch Mine - South, I.D. No. 46-08436, Performance
Coal Company, Montcoal, Raleigh County, West Virginia

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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

May 19, 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 revision is needed to convert entries within the Lower Big Branch section of the mine to intake airways. This revision consists of 2 maps. One map, labeled Current Ventilation, shows the ventilation at the current time. The other map, labeled Ventilation Revision, shows the proposed ventilation once to accomplish the revision.

Entries two through four of the Parallel North Mains will be converted to primary intake air from the area parallel to seal set eight to just outby the location of EP-8. This change was previously approved on May 15, 2009. In addition to this change, the air in the number five entry of the Parallel North Mains between LBB 2 #1 and EP-8 will be changed from return air to intake air and the direction of travel will be reversed.

Air will enter into the Lower Big Branch section of the mine through regulators located at the end of the LBB 2 #4 panel. Entries one through six of the LBB 2 #4 panel will be common intake air courses while entry seven will be an isolated intake. This isolated intake will wrap around the tail of the LBB 2 #3 Panel and supply air to DPP4.

Entries one through six of the LBB 2 #3 panel will be common intake entries between LBB 2 #4 and EP-1. At EP-1 the number one entry of the LBB 2 #3 panel will be blocked off and the intake will combine with entries two through six. The number seven entry of the LBB 2 #3 will be an isolated intake.

Air will enter the head end of the LBB 2 #2 panel through EP-8. This air will exit through EP's 1, 4, and 7 and will then enter the number one entry of the LBB #2 panel. Entries two through six of the LBB 2 #2 panel will be common intake entries and the number seven entry will be an isolated intake. The isolated intake entry will supply air to DPP3.



All of the air exiting the Lower Big Branch portion of the mine will do so at the intersection of LBB 2#1 panel and Parallel North Mains. All intake entries will combine near the intersection where they will be regulated into the number five return entry of Parallel Mains.

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

MAY 19 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION