

U. S. Department of Labor

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



FEB 09 2006

Mr. Bill Potter  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Potter:

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 February 6, 2006, which shows the proposed ventilation during the recovery of Longwall Panel 15A, the proposed ventilation for longwall Panel 16A setup and the proposed ventilation and evaluation of Longwall Panel 16A during mining. The revision request is accompanied by two (2) maps, dated February 2, 2006, that detail portions of the mine for the proposed changes.

The revision is hereby approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact William L. Ross at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard J. Kline

Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

cc: Mt. Hope Field Office (3 encl.)  
Files/dac

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
Initials *BR* Date *2-9-06*  
*RC 2/9/06*

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FEB 09 2006

Mr. Bill Potter  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

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Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact William L. Ross at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard K. Cole" or similar, written in a cursive style.

Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

Mr. Bill Potter  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Potter:

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 February 6, 2006, that shows the proposed ventilation during the recovery of Longwall Panel 15A, the proposed ventilation for Longwall Panel 16A setup and the proposed ventilation and evaluation of Longwall Panel 16A during mining. The revision request is accompanied by two (2) maps, dated February 2, 2006, that detail portions of the mine for the proposed changes.

This revision is hereby approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine.

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

Sincerely,

Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4





# Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

February 6, 2006

Mr. Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
100 Bluestone Road  
Mt. Hope, West Virginia 25880-0112

*GT Levo 2-6-06*

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

Dear Mr. Cole:

Performance Coal Company, Upper Big Branch Mine-South (ID 46-08436), is submitting the panel 15A pullout ventilation plan, panel 16A set-up ventilation plan and proposed ventilation for Panel 16A during mining. The proposed ventilation scheme for the pull out and set-up on are one of the attached drawings. A second drawing shows the ventilation for panel 16A during mining.

Two MP's will be established in HG 14 for the duration of the panel 15A pull out and will be checked every four hours. These MP's (MP-X and MP-Y) will be checked for air direction inby and to assure that methane does not exceed 1%.

Upon start up of the longwall in panel 16A, a reevaluation of the entire longwall bleeder system will be made. This will include quantity, quality and direction of all air entering the bleeder system including all EP's at or near the mouths of all longwall headgates and any other air entering the bleeder from returns from continuous miner sections. This information will be submitted to MSHA prior to start up.

The EP's HG 14 EP 1 and HG 14 EP 2 that had been added in Headgate 14 will be maintained and evaluated during the mining of Panel 16A and checked daily. EP's HG 15 EP 1 and HG 15 EP 2 will be established in HG 15. EP 41A<sup>4</sup> will be established in the panel 16A set up face. These EP's will be maintained for the duration of mining in panel 16A and evaluated daily. Once Panel 16A has completed mining, these EP's will revert to a weekly exam and will be maintained for the duration of the longwall bleeder being active.

Prior to the start up of panel 16A, all equipment is to be off the longwall face and moved outby on the head and tail and EP's established. 39 #40

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,

*George T. Levo*

Performance Coal Co.  
George T. Levo  
Mining Engineer

