

U. S. Department of Labor

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



JUL 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, dated July 17, 2009, and received by MSHA on July 23, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision is to make the ventilation changes to move the MMU-040-0 unit from 1 North Headgate to the Panel No. 1 Crossover.

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/ ROBERT G. HARDMAN

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

MEM for RK 7/24/09
Initials RGA 7/23/09 Date



JUL 27 2009

Mr. Chris Blanchard
President
Performance Coal Company
P. O. Box 69
Naoma, WV 25140

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert G. Hardman".

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



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

July 21, 2009

Mr. Robert G. 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 to begin mining the Panel No. 1 Crossover prior to the exhausting fan being placed into service. The ventilation scheme for mining the Crossover is depicted on the attached map. MMU 040-0 will be moved from the No.1 Section, currently mining the No. 1 North Headgate, to begin mining the Panel No. 1 Crossover.

MSHA will be notified when mining of the crossover reaches to within 50ft of the cut-through into the No.1 North Headgate. Before cutting through into the Headgate, the mining section(s) inby the cut-through will be idled.

This mine currently has no miner's representative. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at (304) 854-3516.

Respectfully Submitted,
Performance Coal Company, Inc.

Eric Lilly
Mine Engineer

MSHA
MOUNT HOPE, WV

JUL 23 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION