U.S. Department of Labor

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



JUL 3 0 2008

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 July 28, 2008. The revision is requesting to change ventilation during the splitting of blocks at the future longwall headgate.

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 the Ventilation Department at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

IN ROBERT G. HARDMAN

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

cc: Mt. Hope Field Office Inspector Field Office Supervisor Files/jcm

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials ACM 7/30 Date

U.S. Department of Labor

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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

July 28, 2008

Mr. Robert G. Hardman District Manager Mine Safety and Health Administration 100 Bluestone Road Mt. Hope, West Virginia 25880-0112

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

Dear Sirs:

Please find for your review and approval, a revision to the ventilation plan for the Upper Big Branch Mine. This revision is to change the ventilation during the splitting of blocks at the future longwall headgate. This revision consists of the attached two drawings.

The two drawings show the ventilation at different stages of the development. Temporary stoppings will be placed as shown on the drawings to direct air to the continuous miner and roof bolter while cutting and bolting the splits. Temporary stoppings shown on the drawing will be used for and only for the splitting of the remaining two blocks.

Upper Big Branch does not have a miners' representative at this time.

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,

Performance Coal Co. Matthew Walker

Mine Engineer

MSHA MT. HOPE FIELD OFFICE



