



AUG 10 2005

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

Dear Mr. Potter:

Subject: Approved Mine Ventilation Plan, Section 75.370(a),
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 18, 2005, which shows the proposed ventilation to recover longwall Panel 20, set-up longwall Panel 11A, and the proposed ventilation during the subsequent mining of longwall Panel 11A. The revision is shown on three (3) portions of the mine map, dated July 18, 2005, and submitted with the revision request. As stated in your submittal letter, an evaluation of the entire bleeder system is to be conducted immediately after commencement of mining in Panel 11A and the results of that survey submitted to MSHA.

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 *8/10/05*

U. S. Department of Labor

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



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President
Performance Coal Company
P. O. Box 69
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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 18, 2005, which shows the proposed ventilation to recover longwall Panel 20, set-up longwall Panel 11A, and the proposed ventilation during the subsequent mining of longwall Panel 11A. The revision is shown on three (3) portions of the mine map, dated July 18, 2005, and submitted with the revision request. As stated in your submittal letter, an evaluation of the entire bleeder system is to be conducted immediately after commencement of mining in Panel 11A and the results of that survey submitted to MSHA.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse P. Cole".

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



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

July 18, 2005

Mr. Jesse P. Cole
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 Mr. Cole:

Performance Coal Company, Upper Big Branch Mine-South (ID 46-08436), is submitting the Panel 20 pullout ventilation plan, Panel 11A set-up ventilation plan and proposed ventilation for Panel 11A during mining. The proposed ventilation schemes for the above are shown on the three attached drawings.

When equipment is removed from Panel 20 longwall, all equipment will be recovered from the headgate side.

Upon start up of the longwall in Panel 11A, 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. A sketch showing all EP's and all other areas where air enters the longwall bleeder system will be submitted to MSHA. This sketch will show quantity and air direction at all these locations.

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.
George T. Levo
Mining Engineer