U.S. Department of Labor

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



AUG 12 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 August 2, 2005, which includes safety precautions and procedures for raise-drilling a coal-transfer shaft from the North Mains section of the subject mine to the Glory Hole Mains section of Elk Run Coal Company's Castle Mine (46-07009). A map was also submitted which shows the ventilation of the area where the shaft will be located.

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,

IS/ JESSE P. COLE

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

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



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