



SEP 04 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 September 3, 2009, and received by MSHA on September 4, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision requests to install a set of double airlock-type doors in the neutral air course between crosscuts 9 and 11 of the 1-North Tailgate in order to pressurized the neutrals, therefore regulating neutral airflow in the mine.

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 portion of the mine map.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard J. Kline

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

Cc: Mount Hope field office (3 copies)
Files / nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials: RLC 9/4/09 Date: 9/4

U. S. Department of Labor

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



SEP 04 2009

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

Erin Lilly
9-4-09

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Big Branch Mine-South, I.D. No. 46-08436, Performance
Coal Company, Montcoal, Raleigh County, West Virginia

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Hardman".

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



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

September 3, 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 attached ventilation revision for your review and approval. This revision is to install a set of doors between breaks 9 and 11 on the No. 1 North Tailgate. These doors are being installed to control neutral air outby the longwall face.

There is currently no miner's representative at the Upper Big Branch Mine. This plan will be posted at the mine office at time of submittal. 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

SEP 03 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION