

U. S. Department of Labor

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



SEP 24 2009

Mr. Chris Blanchard  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
POB 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 the ventilation revision dated September 18, 2009, and received by MSHA on September 22, 2009. The ventilation revision is to drill a dewatering hole into the No. 1 Entry in by Break No. 131. An 8-inch pilot hole will be drilled initially and then reamed out to a diameter of 20 inches.

The revision is hereby approved and will become a part of the approved plan for this mine. The approval is limited to the requested changes as described in the submittal letter and shown on the map.

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 (3incl.)/ Files/nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials *RL 9/24/09* Date

U. S. Department of Labor

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



SEP 24 2009

*Eric Libby*  
9-24-09

Mr. Chris Blanchard  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
POB 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Blanchard:

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Big Branch Mine-South, I.D. No. 46-08436, Performance  
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Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Ventilation Department at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert G. Hardman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

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



The information contained herein is protected under the Privacy Act and should be handled accordingly.



**Legal ID Report**

**EDocument Submission**

Notice Type: Update

Effective Date: 03/09/2009

**Mine Information 1-8**

<b>1. Federal Mine Identification Number:</b>	4608436		
<b>2. Mine Name:</b>	Upper Big Branch Mine-South		
<b>3. Directions To Mine:</b>	Rt. 3 South, to Montcoal		
<b>4. Mine Location Address</b>	<b>Street Address</b> 130 Frontier Street		
	<b>City</b> Montcoal	<b>State</b> WV	<b>Zip Code</b> 25140 -
	<b>County</b> Raleigh		
<b>5. Official Business Name of Operator:</b>	Performance Coal Company		
<b>6. Principal Office Address for this Operator</b>	<b>Street Address</b> 130 Frontier Street		
	<b>City</b> Naoma	<b>State</b> WV	<b>Zip Code</b> 25140 -
	<b>Country</b> USA	<b>Foreign State</b>	<b>Foreign Zip Code</b>
<b>7. Telephone number for this mine:</b>	<b>Area Code</b> 304	<b>Telephone Number</b> 854 - 1762	<b>Extension</b>
<b>8. Commodity</b>	<b>Type of Product</b> Coal - Coal (Bituminous)		<b>Type of Operation</b> Underground

**Health & Safety 9**

**9. Person at Mine in Charge of Health and Safety:**

**Last Name**  
Wallace  
**First Name**  
Homer **MI**  
**Title**  
Superintendent

Street Address **OR** P.O. Box  
69

City State Zip Code  
Naoma WV 25140 -

Country Foreign State Foreign Zip Code  
USA

E-mail Address

**All Health & Safety 10**

**10. Person with Overall responsibility for a Health and Safety Program at ALL of the Operator's Mines, if the Operator is Not Directly Involved in the Daily Operation of the Mine:**

Last Name  
Cornett

First Name MI  
Berman

Title  
Safety Director

Street Address **OR** P.O. Box  
69

City State Zip Code  
Naoma WV 25140 -

Country Foreign State Foreign Zip Code  
USA

E-mail Address  
berman.cornett@masseyenergyco.com

**Address of Record 11**

**11. Address of Records and Telephone Number:**

Last Name  
Blanchard

First Name MI  
Chris

Title  
President

Street Address  
130 Frontier Street

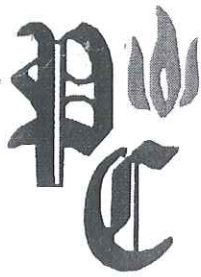
City State Zip Code  
Montcoal WV 25140 -

Country Foreign State Foreign Zip Code  
USA

P.O. Box Address  
69

City State Zip Code  
Naoma WV 25140 -

Country Foreign State Foreign Zip Code  
USA



# Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

September 18, 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  
Borehole Plan

Dear Sir,

Performance Coal Company will be drilling a dewatering hole into the Upper Big Branch Mine in the area of the exhausting fan shaft (see location on map). An 8-inch pilot hole will be drilled initially and then reamed out to a diameter of 20 inches. When the hole reaches to within 100ft of the coal seam the area will be dewatered off for a radius of 50ft. When the hole reaches to within 25ft of the coal seam no one will be allowed within 200ft of the bottom of the proposed hole location. Methane will be monitored continuously at the top of the hole.

Before the hole intersects the mine workings a regulator will be build inby the hole location to prevent a short circuit of air. This regulator will be removed once the hole is regulated on the surface. Also before hole-through the area at the bottom of the hole will be pre-shift examined.

When track equipment is located in the primary escapeway for the longwall and for the No.1 Section it shall be equipped with an automatic fire suppression system. If track equipment in the escapeway is not equipped with an automatic fire suppression system, it shall be monitored at all times. A list of track equipment is attached.

The stopping lines along Headgate 1 North, between the mouth of the gateroad and the longwall, will be examined before each longwall crew enters the area.

Performance Coal Company Inc. does not have a miner's representative at this time. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (304) 854-3508.

Respectfully Submitted  
Performance Coal Company

Eric Lily  
Mine Engineer

MSHA  
MOUNT HOPE, WV

SEP 18 2009

RECEIVED  
VENTILATION

Type	ID Number	Serial Number	Automatic Fire Suppression (Yes or No)
Man Trip	MT 1	8110	No
Man Trip	MT 2	8120	No
Man Trip	MT 3	93133	Yes
Man Trip	MT 4	8258	No
Man Trip	MT 5	8444	No
Man Trip	MT 6	8208	No
Man Trip	MT 7	8128	No
Man Trip	MT 8	08-E9608	Yes
Man Trip	MT 9	93136	Yes
Man Trip	MT 10	8207	No
Man Trip	MT 11	8119	No
Man Trip	MT 12	8121	No
Man Trip	MT 13	9034	No
Locomotive	1	8114	No
Locomotive	2	8115	No
Locomotive	3	9161	No
Locomotive	4	8164	No
Locomotive	5	8777	No
Locomotive	6	8369	No
Locomotive	7	8777	No
Jeep	J2	8259	No
Jeep	J6	NA - Eimco	No
Jeep	J10	NA - Eimco	No
Jeep	J11	NA - Eimco	Yes
Jeep	J12	NA - Eimco	No

MSHA  
MOUNT HOPE, WV

SEP 18 2009

RECEIVED  
VENTILATION