



JAN 05 2010

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

Dear Mine Operator:

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 December 16, 2009, and received by MSHA on December 17, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision shows the ventilation controls to be installed and removed when shearing blocks for the new longwall belt to Headgate 2 North.

The revision is 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 sketch. Please be advised that the ventilation revision must be done in accordance with 30 CFR 75.324.

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

PK 1/5/10

Initials *PK* Date *1/5/10*



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "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

December 16, 2009

Mr. Robert G. Hardman
Mine Safety and Health Administration
100 Bluestone Drive
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 the Upper Big Branch Mine for your review and approval. This revision shows the ventilation controls to be installed and removed when shearing blocks for the new longwall belt.

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

DEC 17 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION