



JAN 20 2010

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

*Intake to
CM*

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 January 12, 2010, and submitted to this office January 13, 2010. The ventilation revision requests to reverse the intake airflow outby 001 section on No. 2 Cross Over Panel to break 12 on Headgate 1 panel.

This revision is approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine. This approval is limited to the requested change as described in the submittal letter and shown on the attached map of the subject mine. **All ventilation changes will be made in accordance with 30 CFR 75.324.**

You are reminded that you are required to notify MSHA during certain phases of the seal construction and submit the quality control documentation to MSHA upon completion of the seals and receipt of the results.

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

mhw/for RK 1/19/10
Initials *Jan* 1/19/10 Date



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

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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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This revision is approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine. This approval is limited to the requested change as described in the submittal letter and shown on the attached map of the subject mine. **All ventilation changes will be made in accordance with 30 CFR 75.324.**

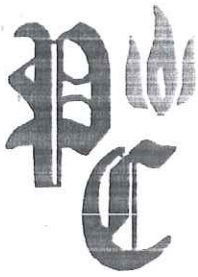
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Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Ventilation Department at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert G. Hardman".

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



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

January 12, 2010

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 needed to reverse the direction of the intake air flowing along the intake escapeway for the 001-0 Section. The change in air direction will be discussed with the persons affected and will be recorded in the pre-shift exam book.

There is currently no miner's representative at the Upper Big Branch Mine. This plan will be posted at the mine office. 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
JAN 13 2010
RECEIVED
VENTILATION

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 10, 2009, and submitted to this office January 13, 2010. The ventilation revision shows reversing the intake air flow, out by 001 section on No. 2 Cross Over Panel to break 12 on Headgate 1 panel.

This revision is approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine. This approval is limited to the requested change as described in the submittal letter and shown on the attached map of the subject mine. **All ventilation changes will be made in accordance with 30 CFR 75.324.**

You are reminded that you are required to notify MSHA during certain phases of the seal construction and submit the quality control documentation to MSHA upon completion of the seals and receipt of the results.

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Sincerely,

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

Cc: Mt. Hope Field Office (3incl.)
Files/nlc