



DEC 16 2009

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 October 13, 2009, and submitted to this office October 15, 2009. The revision shows the right return from #4 Section along North Feats Mains changing direction down to the turn to the North Portals.

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.**

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 (3 incl.)/ Files/nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials RC Date 12/15/09
Initials gmc Date 12/15



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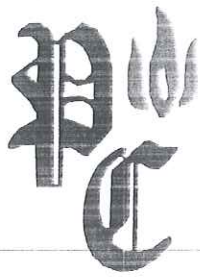
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Sincerely,

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

October 13, 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
Addendum to Ventilation Revision

MSHA
MOUNT HOPE, WV

OCT 15 2009

RECEIVED
VENTILATION

Dear Sir:

Please find the enclosed addendum to the ventilation revision approved on September 24, 2009 for moving the #4 section across the mains. After the ventilation revision was enacted, the direction of the return along North Feats Mains between the active section and the turn to the North Portal changed. The attached map shows the current ventilation of this section of the North Feats Mains.

This mine currently has no miner's representative. 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