

OCT 29 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 a revision to the ventilation plan, dated October 13, 2009, and received by MSHA on October 15, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision consists of two phases: Phase 1 depicts developing the 1 Right Crossover and cutting two entries into the North Glory Mains with a controlled cut through, and Phase 2 depicts the installation/removal of the ventilation controls in 1 Right Crossover after the section is moved to establish an intake air course.

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 sketch. Please be advised that both phases of 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,

Robert G. Hardman

District Manager

Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

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



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AN PAODERT G. HARDMAN

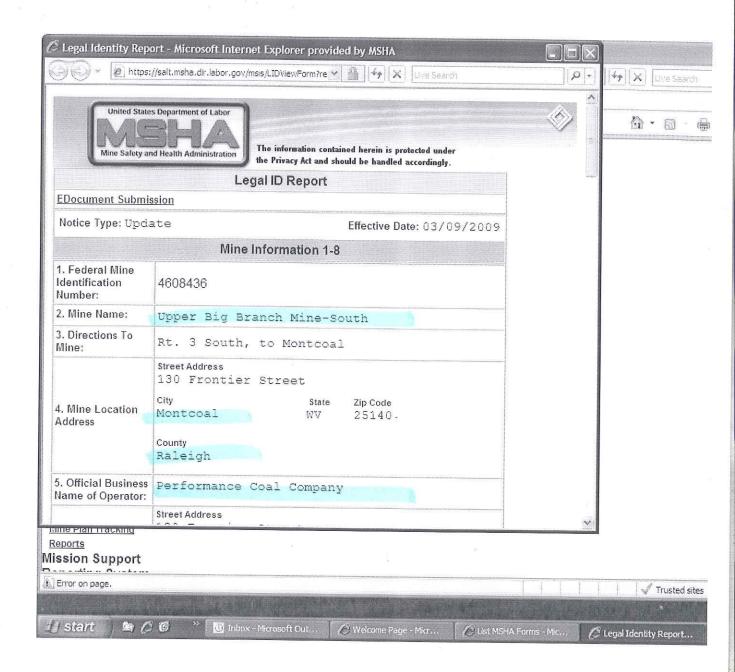
Robert G. Hardman
District Manager
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

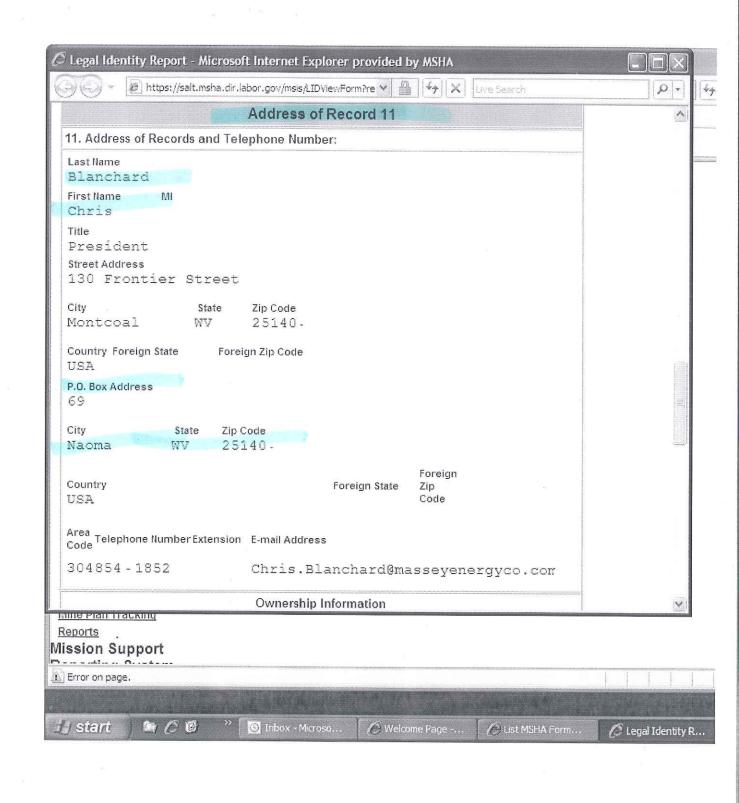
cc: Mt. Hope Field Office Inspector Field Office Supervisor (Letter Only) Files/nlc

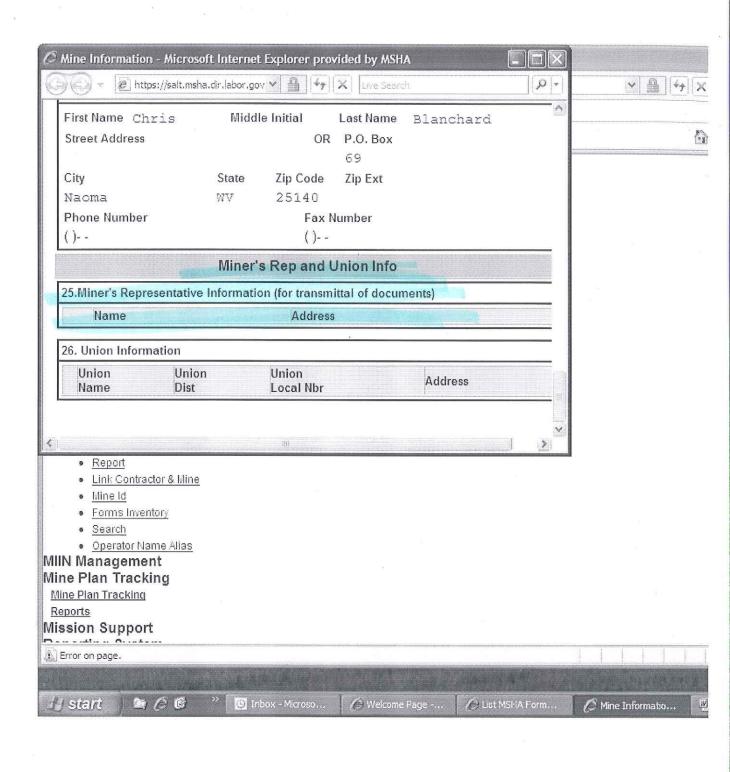
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Performance Coal Company

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 Ventilation Revision

Dear Sir:

Please find the enclosed ventilation revision for our Upper Big Branch Mine for your review and approval. This revision is to cut two entries of the 1 Right Crossover into the North Glory Mains. This revision consists of two phases.

Phase one shows the ventilation while mining and cutting-through. This cut-through will be isolated and controlled. Regulators will be built on the inby and outby sides of the cut-through. These regulators will remain open to ventilate the area until immediately prior to cut-through.

Phase two shows the installation and removal of controls in the 1 Right Crossover to create additional intake once the cut-through is complete and the section moves. Headgate 3 North will be mined under the longwall ventilation revision dated August 6, 2009.

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.

Matthew Walker Mine Engineer MSHA MOUNT HOPE, WV

OCT 2 8 2009

RECEIVED VENTILATION

