

U. S. Department of Labor

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



JUN 14 2006

Mr. Craig Boggs  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Boggs:

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 annual ventilation map, dated May 15, 2006, and received by MSHA on June 1, 2006, for the subject mine. The ventilation plan continues to be approved and includes the following revisions: **Typical face sketch for retreat mining.**

The following items, which you included on the map, are approved under Section 75.371 : **Bleeder evaluation points.**

You are reminded that pursuant to Section 75.372, three copies of an up-to-date mine map shall be submitted to this office by **February 14, 2007.**

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact William L. Ross at (304) 877-3900/Ext. 142.

Sincerely,

/s/ JESSE P. COLE

Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4

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

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
Initials JAB For PJK Date  
BR 6-14-06  
6-14-2006

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Cole".

Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Coal Mine Safety and Health, District 4



# Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

June 6, 2006

Mr. Jesse P. Cole  
District Manager  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
100 Bluestone Road  
Mt. Hope, West Virginia 25880-0112

RE: Performance Coal Company - Upper Big Branch Mine-South  
Federal I.D. 46-08436, State I. D. U-3042-92 – Ventilation Plan

Dear Mr. Cole:

Performance Coal Company, Upper Big Branch Mine-South (ID 46-08436), is re-submitting, after making necessary corrections, three copies of the annual ventilation map for your review and approval. Maps are attached.

Attached also is a list of safety precautions for evaluating air direction, quality and quantity at the Glory Hole.

Your timely review and approval of this revision would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, or require further information, please call me at (304) 854-1761.

Respectfully Submitted,

Performance Coal Co.  
George T. Levo  
Mining Engineer

75.372 Annual Ventilation Map Checklist -- Revised December 2004

Company Name PERFORMANCE Coal Mine Name UPPER Big Branch MSHA ID # 46-08436  
 Annual map due date \_\_\_\_\_ Date annual map received 6-1-06

*George Levo  
Wendell Wells*

- Certified (sealed and signed) accurate by a registered engineer or registered land surveyor
- Name of individual responsible for information on map not obtained by certifying engineer or surveyor - such as air quantities, qualities or direction commonly obtained by mine personnel
- The map or map legend must at least indicate the following:
  - 1) the mine name, company name and MSHA identification number
  - 2) map scale - not less than 100 or more than 500 feet to the inch
  - 3) description of the map symbols used to identify escapeways, mine fans, air flow, or any other item on the map designated by a symbol
- Direction and quantity of air: 1) entering and leaving each split, 2) in the LOC of each set of entries and rooms, and 3) at the intake end of each pillar line (including longwall and shortwall)
- Entry height, velocity and air direction at or near the midpoint of each belt flight (where the height and width of the belt entry is representative)
- All areas of the mine including sealed and unsealed worked-out areas
- Projections for at least 12 months of development showing proposed ventilation controls, bleeder systems, anticipated intake and return air courses, belt entries and escapeways
- The direction of air flow in all underground areas of the mine
- Location and designation of air courses changed from intake to return for the purpose of ventilating structures, areas or installations required to be ventilated to return air and for the ventilation of seals
- Location of all permanent ventilation controls -- stoppings, overcasts, undercasts, regulators, seals, airlock doors, and any other door
- Location of proposed seals for each worked-out area
- Location of all known mine works (same coalbed) within 1000' of existing or *projected* works -- this may be shown on a separate mine map with a scale no greater than 1"=2000'
- Location (and 4 digit MMU #) of all active working sections
- Location of all escapeways
- M/A*  Locations of existing methane drainage systems
- Locations of all AMS (atmospheric monitoring system) sensors, including all CO sensors or smoke sensors as required by Subpart D (Ventilation)
- Location of point-feed regulators as per 75.350(d)(5)
- Location of all known overlying and underlying mine workings on the mine property (and the distance between them)
- Location of all known oil and gas wells and drill holes that penetrate the coalbed being mined
- Location and description of all main and back-up mine fans - specifications including size, type, model #, manufacturer, operating pressure, motor HP and RPM required
- Location of all surface openings and the direction and quantity of airflow at each
- The dimensions, depth and length of each shaft and slope
- Elevations provided at the following locations:
  - 1) at the top and bottom of slopes and shafts
  - 2) elevation contour lines (whole numbers, max. of 10' intervals unless otherwise approved)
- Any other information used to depict and explain the requirements of the 75.371 plan contents

**Note:** Three (3) copies of an up-to-date map are required to be submitted to the District Manager at intervals not exceeding 12 months. The map required by 75.1200 may be used to satisfy the requirements for the 75.372 ventilation map, provided that all the information listed above is contained on the map.