

U. S. Department of Labor

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



MAR 16 2006

Mr. Bill Potter
President
Performance Coal Company
P. O. Box 69
Naoma, WV 25140

Dear Mr. Potter:

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, submitted to this office and dated March 16, 2006, which shows the proposed ventilation changes for the mining of new continuous miner projections to the north of Headgate 18 and the location of evaluation points for a worked out area mined to the south off Headgate 18. The ventilation change is depicted on three (3) phase maps, labeled "Phase 1, Before Mining", "Phase 2, During Mining" and "Phase 3, After Mining", dated March 16, 2006, and submitted with the revision request.

The revision is hereby approved and will be made a part of the approved plan for this mine.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard J. Kline

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

cc: Mt. Hope Field Office (2 encl.)
Inspector (1 encl.)
Files/dac

Sonya gave original to George Levo - there was no copy of it made

INITIALS
BK
DATE
3-16-06
SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

March 16, 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 submitting the attached mining and ventilation projections for Headgate 18. Currently, a miner section is mining to the south from Headgate 18. When mining there is completed, we propose to mine north from Headgate 18. It will be mined with double split ventilation and both returns will be dumped into the longwall bleeder. The right return will be dumped into Headgate 19 and the left return will be dumped into Headgate 18 as shown on the attached map.

The quantity of air from each miner section return will not exceed 20,000 cfm. Attached for your review are three maps: HG 18 before, during and after mining.

After mining is completed, seals will be built as shown on the Phase 3 map and the belt will be removed and the escapeways eliminated back to the mainline. The point feed regulator near the mouth of this submain will also be removed.

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

