



SEP 04 2009

Mr. Chris Blanchard  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 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 September 3, 2009, and received by MSHA on September 4, 2009, for the subject mine. The proposed revision shows the revised return aircourse located in the Lower Big Branch portion of the mine, and shows controls to be installed at the Birchtown Portals located at the Northern portion of the mine.

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 portion of the mine map. Please be reminded that a previous revision concerning the excavation of the portals, which includes safety precautions to prevent exposure of miners to hazards associated with this activity, remains in effect.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard J. Kline

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

Cc: Mount Hope field office (3 copies)  
Files / nlc

SUPERVISORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Initials *ek alclg* Date *gm 9/4*

U. S. Department of Labor

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



SEP 04 2009

*Eric Hill*  
9-4-09

Mr. Chris Blanchard  
President  
Performance Coal Company  
P. O. Box 69  
Naoma, WV 25140

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Hardman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

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



# Performance Coal Company

P.O. Box 69

Naoma, WV

25140

September 3, 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 attached ventilation revision for your review and approval. This revision is to show the location of stopping lines and the direction of airflow in the LBB portion of the Upper Big Branch Mine.

There is currently no miner's representative at the Upper Big Branch Mine. This plan will be posted at the mine office at time of submittal. 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

SEP 03 2009

RECEIVED  
VENTILATION

RECEIVED  
VENTILATION

SEP 03 2009

MSHA  
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