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

Dear Mr. Potter:

Subject: Approved Mine Ventilation Plan, Section 75.370(a),  
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 August 2, 2005, which includes safety precautions and procedures for raise-drilling a coal-transfer shaft from the North Mains section of the subject mine to the Glory Hole Mains section of Elk Run Coal Company’s Castle Mine (46-07009). A map was also submitted which shows the ventilation of the area where the shaft will be located.

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]/ JESSE P. COLE

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

cc: Mt. Hope Field Office (3 encl.)  
Files/dac
AUG 12 2005

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