DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM)

Swisher Coal Co., Huntington Canyon Mine No. 4; Availability of Proposed Decision to Approve, With Stipulations Major Modification of Coal Mining and Reclamation Plan for Public Review

ACTION: Availability for Public Review of Proposed Decision to Approve, with Stipulations, a Coal Mining and Reclamation Plan

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 211.5 of Title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Office of Surface Mining has performed a technical review of a mining and reclamation plan and will recommend approval of the proposed plan contingent to the applicant's acceptance of stipulations. The proposed coal mining operation is described below.

Applicant

Mine name

Location of, lands to be affected by modification

State

County

Township, range, section

Swisher Coal Co Huntington Canyon No. 4 Utah Emery and Carbon T.165 R.78. 8. 16. 17. T.158, R.10E; 11 (coal load-out)

Office of Surface Mining Reference No.: UT-0004. The mine is located approximately 12 miles west-northwest of Huntington, Utah, within the Manti LaSal National Forest. The proposed operation involves extension of underground mining and subsequent reclamation on about 500 acres of the total lease area of 600 acres. The mine is presently not operating. The operation includes a coal load-out and preparation facility located southwest of Wellington, Utah. The proposal addresses single seam room and pillar mining of the Blind Canyon Seam, surface operations, and surface drainage control at both the mine and at the coal load-out facility. The plan briefly addresses subsequent mining of the underlying Hiawatha Seam and an associated "Lower Seam Portal Yard."

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Regional Director, Region V, Office of Surface Mining, has recommended, based on staff reviews and the reviews of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, the Forest Service, and the Geological Survey, approval of the coal mining and reclamation plan, subject to stipulations which must be accepted by the applicant in order for the approval to take effect. Any persons having an interest which is or may be adversely affected by recommended approval, may, in writing, request a public meeting to discuss their views regarding the plan.

DATES: All requests for a public meeting must be made within 20 calendar days from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. No decision on the plan will be made by the Assistant Secretary, Energy and Minerals, prior to the expiration of the 20-day period.

The mining and reclamation plan and associated materials are available for review in the Region V Office of Surface Mining (Room 207, Post Office Building). Requests for a public meeting must be submitted in writing to the Regional Director, Region V, Office of Surface Mining, Room 270, Post Office Building, 1823 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado, 80202. Request must include the name and address of the requester.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Hardaway or Murray Smith, Office of Surface Mining, Region V, Room 270, 1823 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado, 80202.

Walter N. Heine,
Director.
[Emery Coal Leases No. SL-064903, U-33545]

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