

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement CESSATION ORDER Permanent Regulatory Procedures			1. Cessation Order Number C25-111-440-001	
2. Name South Fork Coal Company, LLC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permittee <input type="checkbox"/> No Permit	Originating Office Address Charleston Field Office USDOJ Office of Surface Mining 1027 Virginia Street, East Charleston, WV 25301	
3. Mailing Address 1295 Ashford Hill Road, Ashford, WV 25009			Telephone Number 304-977-7450	
4. Mine Name Haulroad # 2			9. Date of Inspection	
5. Phone 304-836-5860	6. County Pocahontas	State WV	10. Time of Inspection From _____ To _____	
7. Operator's Name (if other than Permittee)			8. Mailing Address	
11. Permit Number O-3022-11	12. NPDES Number WV1026593	13. MSHA ID Number	14. OSM Mine Number	

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SURFACE MINING CONTROL AND RECLAMATION ACT OF 1977 (P.L. 95-87; 30 U.S.C. 1201), THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR has conducted an inspection of the above mine on the above date and has found that a Cessation Order must be issued for each violation(s) of the Act, the regulations, or required permit conditions listed in the attachment(s). This Order constitutes a separate Cessation Order for each condition, practice, or violation listed.

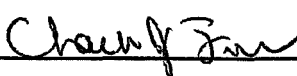
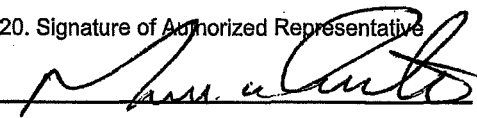
In accordance with Section 521(a) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, **YOU ARE ORDERED TO CEASE IMMEDIATELY** the operations described in the attachment(s) and to perform the corrective actions described in the attachment(s) within the designated abatement time. Reclamation operations not directly the subject of this Order shall continue while this Order is in effect.

You are responsible for doing all work in a safe and workmanlike manner.

THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE HEREBY FINDS THAT THIS NOTICE DOES NOT DOES REQUIRE CESSATION OF MINING EXPRESSLY OR IN PRACTICAL EFFECT. Therefore, you are are not entitled to an informal public hearing on request, within 30 days after service of this notice (30 CFR 843:15).

This Order shall remain in effect until it expires as provided on the attached notice or is modified, terminated, or vacated by written notice of an authorized representative of the Secretary.

IMPORTANT -- Please Read Information on the Next Page

15. Print Name of Person Served Charles Felber	18. Date of Service 1-13-2025
16. Print Title of Person Served Surface Mine Engin.	19. Print Name of Authorized Representative Mark Carter
17. Signature of Person Served 	20. Signature of Authorized Representative 
	ID Number 440

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
CESSATION ORDER (CONTINUATION)

1. Notice of Violation Number C25-111-440-001

Violation Number
1 of 1

NATURE OF PERMIT CONDITION VIOLATED, PRACTICE OR VIOLATION

South Fork Coal Company, LLC failed to obtain approval of a valid permit in that the permittee failed to demonstrate Valid Existing Rights (VER) across United States of America property (Tract M) prior to obtaining approval of permit O-3022-11.

PROVISION(S) OF THE REGULATIONS, ACT OR PERMIT VIOLATED

843.11 (a) (2)
761.11 (b)

- The condition, practice, or violation is creating an imminent danger to the health or safety of the public
- The condition, practice or violation is causing or can reasonably be expected to cause significant, imminent environmental harm to land, air, or water resources
- The permittee has failed to abate Violation of included in Notice of Violation within the time for abatement originally fixed or subsequently extended pursuant to 521(a)(3) of the Act.

OPERATIONS TO BE CEASED IMMEDIATELY

Cease mining operations on the entire permit area.

CORRECTIVE ACTION AND TIME FOR ABATEMENT (If Applicable - Not Required if F.T.A.)

South Fork Coal Company, LLC shall obtain a valid permit which includes the approval of a Valid Existing Rights determination by OSMRE.

Scheduled Final Abatement Date:

IMPORTANT--- PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. Formal Review and Temporary Relief. You may apply for review of this Notice by submitting an application for review, within 30 days of receipt of this Order by you or your agent to:

Office of Hearings and Appeals
U.S. Department of the Interior
351 South West Temple, Suite 6.300
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 524-5344

If you apply for a formal review, you may request temporary relief from complying with this Notice. Your request must be filed with the Hearings Division at the above address prior to a decision in the formal review. The procedures for obtaining a formal review or temporary relief are contained in Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations Section 4.

2. Informal Public Hearing. A Notice of Violation which requires cessation of mining, expressly or by necessary implication, shall expire within 30 days after it is served unless an informal public hearing has been held within that time. On the first page of this Notice of Violation, the authorized representative has made a finding as to whether or not this Notice of Violation requires cessation of mining. If you are entitled to an informal review please notify the OSM office indicated on this Cessation Order.

No hearing will be held where the violation in question has been abated, or the hearing has been waived. Your right to an informal review will be deemed waived unless you request an informal review within 30 days after service of this Order.

OSM may conduct the hearing later than the 30 day period with the consent of the person to whom this Order was issued. You will be deemed to have consented to an extension of the time for holding the hearing if your request is received on or after the 21st day after the service of this Order.

3. Penalties. You may submit information in writing pertaining to the condition(s), practice(s) or violation(s) covered by this Order within 15 days of the date that the Order is served on you or your agent. This information will be considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty. You may also submit a request that the Director waive the use of the formula contained in 30 CFR Part 845.13 in determining the civil penalty for the violations cited in this Order. Your request must include your reasons for requesting the waiver. A waiver will be granted only if the Director determines that, taking into account exceptional factors present in the particular case, the penalty is demonstrably unjust. If you wish to submit this information, you should send it to one of the three addresses below:

For OSM's Appalachian Region:

US DOI, Office of Surface Mining
Knoxville Field Office
Program Support Group
710 Locust St, 2nd Floor
Knoxville, TN 37902

For OSM's Mid-Continent Region:

US DOI, Office of Surface Mining
Alton Field Division
Program Support Group
Alton Federal Building
501 Belle Street, Room 216

For OSM's Western Region:

US DOI, Office of Surface Mining
Denver Regional Office
Program Support Group
Denver Federal Center, Building 41
PO Box 25065

For each violation covered by this Order, a penalty of up to \$5,000 may be assessed for each day during which that violation continues.

If you are a corporation, you may be assessed a separate penalty, for up to \$5000 for each violation, for which you can be held personally liable.

If this Order is being issued for failure to abate a violation(s) which was the subject of a prior Notice of Violation a minimum penalty of \$2566 or more must be assessed for each day, during which the violation(s) continues beyond the abatement period set forth in that Notice, up to a maximum of 30 days.

If you willfully and knowingly fail or refuse to comply with this Order, you will be subject to criminal prosecution and will, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year or both.

4. Effect on Permit. In addition, if it is determined that a pattern of violations of any requirement(s) of the Act, the regulations, or permit conditions exists, and that the violations were caused by unwarranted failure of the permittee or were willful violations, the permit may be suspended or revoked,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONSULT Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations Section 4; Title 30 Code of Federal Regulations Chapter VII; and Title V of the Act, or CONTACT the nearest OSM Office for a copy of the "Rights of Operators and Permittees" manual.