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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF OIL AND GAS MANAGEMENT

DEP USE ONLY
Application Tracking # 1514007

ALT SITE ID: WLPAD - BIRD RUN
Proposed Alternate Method or Material for
Casing, Plugging, Venting or Equipping a Well

Well Operator Range Resources Appalachia, LLC		DEP ID# 141142	Well Permit or Registration Number 37-125-29187	
Address 3000 Town Center Blvd.		Well Farm Name BIRD RUN 10938		
City Canonsburg	State PA	Zip Code 15317	Well # 1H	Serial #
Phone 724-743-6700	Fax	County Washington		Municipality Chartiers Twp

A proposed alternate method is subject to provisions in §3221 of the 2012 Oil and Gas Act, 58 Pa. C.S. §3221 Section 13 of the Coal and Gas Resource Coordination Act, 58 P.S. §513 and 25 PA Code §§78.75-78.75a (relating to Alternate Methods.) Attach proof of notification of coal operator(s).

Describe in reasonable detail using a written description and / or diagram:


- 1. the proposed alternate method or materials, and**
- 2. the manner in which the alternative will satisfy the goals of the laws and regulations.**

The BIRD RUN 10938 pad is in a known area of mining. The top of the mined-out Pittsburgh coal is estimated to be around 250'GL (no other workable coal seams), and the deepest reported fresh groundwater (DFGW) within a 2,500' radius of the BIRD RUN 10938 pad is estimated at a preliminary depth of roughly 347'GL for planning purposes which is approximately 97' below the top of the coal mine. However, during prior operations on the pad fresh water was not observed below the coal seam after monitoring for influx. Since the BIRD RUN 10938 pad location is within a mine boundary, a mine balance cement job is required on the 13-3/8" mine string. As a result, it is not possible to set a water string at least 50' below DFGW, as well as provide enough space to effectively place mine baskets between the surface casing shoe and the top of the mine providing ample cement coverage and isolation between DFGW and the mined coal. (per Chapter §78a.83(c) & §78a.83(h) as shown below). With this alternate method, we are requesting to set a water casing string less than 50' below the DFGW due to the proximity of DFGW and the estimated top of the mine void.

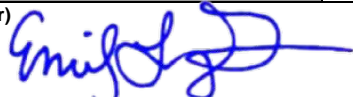
§78a.83. Surface and coal protective casing and cementing procedures.

(c.) The operator shall drill to approximately 50 feet below the deepest fresh groundwater or at least 50 feet into consolidated rock, whichever is deeper, and immediately set and permanently cement a string of surface casing to that depth.

(h) Unless an alternative method has been approved by the Department in accordance with § 78a.75 (relating to alternative methods), when a well is drilled through a coal seam at a location where the coal has been removed or when a well is drilled through a coal pillar, the operator shall drill to a depth of at least 30 feet but no more than 50 feet deeper than the bottom of the coal seam. The operator shall set and cement a coal protection string of casing to this depth. The operator shall equip the casing with a cement basket or other similar device above and as close to the top of the coal seam as practical.

Optional: Approval by Coal Owner or Operator		Signature of Applicant / Well Operator	
Signature	Date	Signature 	Date 1/28/2024
Print or Type Signer's Name and Title		Print or Type Signer's Name and Title Jon Hinson - Sr. Drilling Engineer	

If optional approval is signed by coal owner or operator, the 15-day objection period may be waived.

DEP USE ONLY		
Approved by (DEP Manager) 	Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> YES, See Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	Date 2/6/25