

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215

Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone: (303) 866-3567

FAX: (303) 832-8106



December 24, 2013

Pete Plage
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 25486, DFC (MS 65412)
Denver, CO 80225-0486

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Pineda
Director

**Re: Golden Eagle Mine (Permit No. C-1981-013)
Permit Renewal Application No. 6 (RN-6)**

Dear Mr. Plage:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety hereby issues notice, in accordance with Title 34, Article 33, Section 118, Paragraph 3, of the Colorado Revised Statutes, that on December 23, 2013, an application to renew an existing permit to conduct coal mining operations at the Golden Eagle Mine was considered complete for the purposes of filing. All review and comment periods as provided in the Colorado Surface Mining Reclamation Act and the Rules initiate from this date of filing.

New Elk Coal Company, LLC proposes to continue Underground coal mining and/or reclamation operations on land located approximately 20 miles West of Trinidad, Colorado. The permit area is further described as follows:

In all or portions of Sections 15-22, and Sections 27-34 of T33S, R67W; and Sections 3 and 4 of T34S, R67W.

The above-mentioned tracts of land are shown on the following USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangle map(s): Vigil.

The remaining permit area encompasses 1.2 acres at the former NW-1 ventilation shaft. The applicant proposes activities planned over the new five-year permit term include monitoring maintenance and bond release as appropriate.

This renewal application does not propose revisions to the approved mining and reclamation plan, nor is there any proposed surface disturbance outside of the currently approved disturbance area.

The applicant is required to publish notice in the *The Chronicle - News* that this permit renewal application has been deemed complete. At the time of publication of this notice, the applicant is additionally required to place a copy of this application at the Las Animas County Courthouse, 200 East First Street, Room 104, Trinidad, CO 81082, and at the Division office. For additional information or to provide written comments, or request an informal conference, contact the

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 215, 1313 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567. In order for us to comply with regulatory time frames, we request that comments be submitted within thirty (30) days of the last publication mentioned above.

Please contact me at the telephone number above if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Simmons", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Leigh D. Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist
Leigh.Simmons@state.co.us

Enclosure(s)