

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



February 6, 2014

Assistant State Supervisor
Fish and Wildlife Enhancement
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
764 Horizon Drive, South Annex A
Grand Junction, CO 81506-3904

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Pineda
Director

**Re: Foidel Creek Mine (Permit No. C-1982-056)
Technical Revision No. 83 (TR-83)
Mine Plan Modification for Wolf Creek Reserve Initial Development.**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety hereby issues notice, in accordance with Title 34, Article 33, Section 116, Paragraph 4, of the Colorado Revised Statutes, that on February 6, 2014 an application to revise coal mining operations at the Foidel Creek Mine was considered complete for the purposes of filing. The revision was submitted by Twentymile Coal, LLC. All review and comment periods as provided in the Act and the Regulations initiate from this date of filing.

Technical Revision No. 83 (TR-83) requests to modify Twentymile Coal LLC's approved mine plans to include initial development for the Wolf Creek Coal Seam Reserve. Initial development will include development and placement of long-term support for a 3-entry rock slope access, development of up to six sets of gate-roads and bleeder entries, and related ancillary activities including, underground dewatering activities and the extension of mine ventilation and support systems.

The Underground coal mining operation is on land located approximately 23 miles Southwest of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The permit area is further described as follows:

In portions of Sections 7, 8, 9, T4N, R86W; Sections 32 and 33, T6N, R86W; Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 in T5N, R87W; and all of T5N, R86W with the exception of Sections 34, 35, and 36. (move to Quad: Cow Creek, Dunckley, Milner, Mount Harris, and Oak Creek)

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

Because the above referenced technical revision application would incorporate additional lands into the permit area or might otherwise alter previously approved permit conditions or mitigation measures, the Division is coordinating with the Office of Surface Mining on evaluation of the

potential for impacts to threatened or endangered species of plants or animals, or wildlife species otherwise protected by federal law. A copy of the permit section addressing potential effects of the operation to threatened and endangered (T&E) species has been forwarded to the Office of Surface Mining. The OSM will prepare the biological assessment necessary for approval based on the information provided in the application, and OSM will coordinate with your office as necessary. This coordination is required to ensure mitigation of potential impacts to federally protected wildlife species.

The applicant is required to publish notice in the *Steamboat Pilot* that this 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 Routt County Clerk and Recorder, 136 6th Street, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477, and at the Division office. For additional information or to provide written comments, contact the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 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 ten (10) days of this letter.

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

Sincerely,



Jason D. Musick
Environmental Protection Specialist
Jason.musick@state.co.us