

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

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April 2, 2014

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

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Pineda
Director

**Re: Bowie No. 2 Mine (Permit No. C-1996-083)
 Technical Revision No. 87 (TR-87)
 Expand Pond D, Relocate E & W Diversion Ditches**

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 April 2, 2014 an application to revise coal mining operations at the Bowie No. 2 Mine was considered complete for the purposes of filing. The revision was submitted by Bowie Resources, LLC. All review and comment periods as provided in the Act and the Regulations initiate from this date of filing.

Bowie Resources, LLC (BRL) is proposing to expand Pond D, and relocate the diversion ditches upgradient of Gob Pile #2 in advance of a request to expand Gob Pile #2. The proposed expansion of Pond D would result in the removal and destruction of the Coal Sales house associated with the historic King Mine. Five acres of additional disturbance and a reclamation performance bond increase are proposed.

The Underground coal mining operation is on land located approximately 5 miles Northeast of Paonia, Colorado. The permit area is further described as follows:

Portions of Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, and 22, Township 13 South, Range 91 West of the 6th P.M. Portions of Sections 33 and 34, Township 12 South, Range 91 West of the 6th P.M.

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

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 *Delta County Independent* 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 Paonia Public Library, P.O. Box 969, Paonia, , 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,



Susan L. Burgmaier
Environmental Protection Specialist
Susan.burgmaier@state.co.us