



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

September 8, 2014

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

**Re: Southfield Mine (Permit No. C-1981-014)
Technical Revision No. 41 (TR-41)
Request - Relocate Vegetation Reference Area.**

Dear Mr. Plage:

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 September 8, 2014 an application to revise coal mining operations at the Southfield Mine was considered complete for the purposes of filing. The revision was submitted by Energy Fuels Coal, Inc.. All review and comment periods as provided in the Act and the Regulations initiate from this date of filing.

EFCI proposes to relocate the grassland reference area for the loadout. The previously approved reference area has been previously disturbed by a third party. The applicant is not proposing additional surface disturbance outside of the area currently approved for disturbance.

The underground coal mining operation is on land located approximately 7 miles South of Florence, Colorado. The permit area is further described as follows:

Mine Area:

Portions of Sections 19, 30, and 31; Township 20S, Range 69N of the 6th P.M.; Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, and 36; Township 20S, Range 70 W of the 6th P.M.

Loadout:

Portions of Sections 17 and 18; Township 19S, Range 69W of the 6th P.M.

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



Because the above referenced technical revision application may 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 any 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 *Cañon City Daily Record* 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 Fremont County Clerk and Recorder, 615 Macon Avenue, Room B-5, Cañon City, CO 81212, 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,



Janet H. Binns
Environmental Protection Specialist
Janet.binns@state.co.us