



**COLORADO**

**Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

December 5, 2014

Assistant State Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
445 W. Gunnison Ave, Suite 240  
Grand Junction, CO 81501-5711

**Re:   Bowie No. 2 Mine (Permit No. C-1996-083)  
      Technical Revision No. 97 (TR-97)  
      Variance Request for Gob Pile #1 Slope**

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 December 5, 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 requesting a variance from the refuse pile slope construction requirements of Rule 4.10.4, to allow a 1.5H:1V slope on 0.1 acres of Gob Pile #1. The revision application includes a stability analysis of the the gob pile with the proposed slope configuration to demonstrate that the gob pile will have a minimum static safety factor of 1.5. 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 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 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 *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, 2 3rd Street, Paonia, CO 81428, 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