



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

April 20, 2015

Mark Tobias
Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
History Colorado Center
1200 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

**Re: Colowyo Coal Mine (Permit No. C-1981-019)
Technical Revision No. 105 (TR-105)
Post Mine Topography Modifications**

Dear Mr. Tobias:

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 20, 2015 an application to revise coal mining operations at the Colowyo Coal Mine was considered complete for the purposes of filing. The revision was submitted by Colowyo Coal Company L.P.. All review and comment periods as provided in the Act and the Regulations initiate from this date of filing.

The Colowyo Coal Company, LP has submitted a Technical Revision to the Colowyo Mine permit. The revision proposes changes to the approved post-mining topography and associated post-mining drainage channels in the East Pit, West Pit and South Taylor Pit of the Colowyo Mine. There are no proposed changes to the mine's permitted, affected or disturbed acreages. The Division will address any changes to the mine's reclamation liability during technical adequacy. The applicant is not proposing additional surface disturbance outside of the area currently approved for disturbance.

The surface coal mining operation is on land located approximately 28 miles South of Craig, Colorado. The permit area is further described as follows:

All or portions of Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, and 30 in Township 3 North, Range 93 West; Sections 7, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 in Township 4 North, Range 93 West; Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12,



13, 14, 15, 22, and 23 in Township 3 North, Range 94 West; and Sections 12, 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36 in Township 4 North, Range 94 West (all in 6th Prime Meridian).

The applicant is not proposing additional surface disturbance outside of the area currently approved for disturbance.

The above-mentioned tracts of land are shown on the following USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangle map(s): Easton Gulch, Axial, Devils Hole Gulch, Ninemile Gap.

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, we are requesting your agency's evaluation of the potential for impacts to cultural and historic resources.

In accordance with the May 1991 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between our agencies, we must have your concurrence in order to approve this proposal. We are required to make a finding that "the proposed operations will not adversely affect any publicly owned park or place listed on or those places eligible for listing, as determined by the SHPO, on the National Register of Historic Places, unless approved jointly by the Board and the Federal, State, or local agency with jurisdiction over the park or place." Therefore, we request that you submit comments regarding your concurrence with, concerns with, or objections to this proposal. In order that we may comply with regulatory time frames, we request that comments be submitted within fifteen (15) days of this letter. If no comments are received by then, we will proceed on the assumption that you have no concerns with, or objections to, the applicant's proposal. Please refer to the MOU when undertaking your review.

Pertinent portions of the permit application are available electronically on our web site: <http://mining.state.co.us/Reports/MiningData/Pages/ImagedDocumentData.aspx>. Documents can be sorted by name or by Section/Exhibit number. A user's guide for our imaging system is also available in pdf format at the same web address. Please advise us if you require additional information.

The applicant is required to publish notice in a local newspaper 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 Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder, 500 Main Street, Meeker, CO 81641; Moffat County Clerk and Recorder, 221 W Victory Way, Craig, CO 81625, 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a series of loops and a final horizontal stroke.

James R. Stark
Environmental Protection Specialist
Jim.stark@state.co.us

C-TR-03A