



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

August 25, 2015

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

**Re: Foidel Creek Mine (Permit No. C-1982-056)
Permit Revision Application No. 11 (PR-11)
Permit Revision for Development and Mining of the Wolf Creek Reserve**

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 August 25, 2015, 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.

Permit Revision No. 11 (PR-11) revises the mining plan to include progressive development and longwall mining of the Wolf Creek Coal Seam Reserve. The requested revision addresses mining of three of the initial panels (WC-9RT, 8RT and 7RT (partial)) developed under TR-83; subsequent development (or partial development) of three additional panels in the Wolf Creek Reserve (WC-6RT through 4RT); and mining of Twentymile Coal LLC's owned and leased State and fee reserves in Panels WC-7RT (remainder), and 6RT through 4RT (eastern). The revision also includes development of an internal underground ventilation and utility shaft in the Wolf Creek main entries adjacent to the WC-8RT Panel and an adjustment to shift a segment of the eastern Permit Boundary to the east 160 acres. These proposed operations are projected to affect an additional 150 acres underground. This phase of the Wolf Creek operations will not require construction of any new surface facilities. However, longwall mining operations will result in controlled incremental subsidence of overlying areas; some of which have previously been subsided by recent mining operations in the Wadge Coal Seam. The coal reserves in T5N, R86W,



Sections 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 which would be developed and mined under this proposed mine plan are owned by Twentymile Coal LLC or controlled under existing State Coal Lease CO-3229. 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 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 permit 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. Please refer to the MOU when undertaking your review.

A copy of the permit revision application is available for public inspection at the Routt County Clerk and Recorder, P.O. Box 773598, 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.

Sincerely,



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Environmental Protection Specialist
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