



August 5, 2021

Mr. Zach Trujillo
Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety
Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colowyo Coal Company L.P.
Permit No. C-1981-019
Minor Revision No. 235 (MR-235)
Adequacy Response

Dear Mr. Trujillo,

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc. (Tri-State), is the parent company to Axial Basin Coal Company, which is the general partner to Colowyo Coal Company L.P. (Colowyo). Therefore, Tri-State on behalf of Colowyo is submitting this adequacy response for minor revision 235 (MR-235) to Permit No. C-1981-019.

Tri-State received the Division's adequacy letter dated August 5, 2021, and has the following responses to the Division's concerns:

1. *There appears to be a pagination and text flow discrepancy between approved page 4-33 and proposed page 4-34. Approved page 4-33 was last approved with MR-233 and has the beginning text of Section 4.13. This section and text has been shifted and now appears duplicated on the proposed page 4-34. Please provide an updated page 4-33 that flows correctly into proposed page 4-34.*

Response: Page 4-33 has been provided as requested.

2. *The Division has performed a reclamation cost estimate to reclaim the Collom area fire lines. The total value of this estimate is \$3,482.00 (see attached cost estimate). The Division's cost estimate is consistent with previous cost estimates approved by both the Division and Colowyo. The Division respectfully requests a response from Colowyo with any questions regarding the cost estimate or an acceptance of the Division's estimate.*

Response: Tri-State has reviewed the Division's reclamation cost estimate which will increase Colowyo's reclamation liability by \$3,482.00, and hereby provides concurrence with the Division's estimate.

Included in this adequacy response is a change of index sheet to ease incorporation of this adequacy response into the permit document. If you should have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tony Tennyson at (970) 326-3560 at your convenience.



August 5, 2021

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Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Chris Gilbreath
D250C711D0BF450...

Chris Gilbreath
Senior Manager,
Remediation and Reclamation

CG:TT:der

Enclosure

cc: Tony Tennyson (via email)
Angela Aalbers (via email)
File: C. F. 1.1.1.215 - G471-11.3(21)d

CHANGE SHEET FOR PERMIT REVISIONS, TECHNICAL REVISION, AND MINOR REVISIONS

Mine Company Name: Colowyo Coal Company

Permit Number: **C-1981-019**

Date: **August 5, 2021**

Revision Description: **MR-235 Collom Wild Land Fire**

Volume Number	Page, Map or other Permit Entry to be REMOVED	Page, Map or other Permit Entry to be ADDED	Description of Change
1	Page 4-33 (1 page)	Page 4-33 (1 page)	Page 4-33 has been provided.
2A			No Change
2B			No Change
2C			No Change
2D			No Change
2E			No Change
3			No Change
4			No Change
5A			No Change
5B			No Change
6			No Change
7			No Change
8			No Change
9			No Change
10			No Change
12			No Change
13			No Change
14			No Change
15			No Change
16			No Change
15			No Change
17			No Change
18A			No Change
18B			No Change
18C			No Change
18D			No Change

CHANGE SHEET FOR PERMIT REVISIONS, TECHNICAL REVISION, AND MINOR REVISIONS

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Date: **August 5, 2021**

Revision Description: **MR-235 Collom Wild Land Fire**

Volume Number	Page, Map or other Permit Entry to be REMOVED	Page, Map or other Permit Entry to be ADDED	Description of Change
19			No Change
20			No Change
20			No Change
21			No Change
22			No Change

RULE 4 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

the expansion of the Axial Basin Substation are not associated with Colowyo's mining activities, and will not be required to be permitted nor bonded for in accordance with Rule 3.02.1(2).

In 2018, approximately 22 acres within Colowyo's permit boundary (outside of the disturbance boundary) was affected by the wild land fire caused by a lighting strike. The location of the fire is shown on Figure 4.12-6. The area that was burned is mostly comprised of pinyon juniper and low-density sagebrush. Because the fire was not related to Colowyo's mining activities, Colowyo, as the surface landowner will reseed or managed the post-fire area, as it deems appropriate.

In 2019, the surface landowner replaced a culvert under the Taylor Creek Access Road (please see Map 25C for location of the road) to support long-term access up the Taylor Creek drainage. Minimal ground disturbance was associated with replacing the culvert. Since the activity is related to the surface landowner, it is not permitted and bonded for in accordance with Rule 3.02.1(2).

In 2019, approximately 13.5 acres within Colowyo's permit boundary (outside of the disturbance boundary) adjacent to the Collom Haul Road was affected by the wild land fire caused by high winds slapping power lines together. The location of the fire is shown on Figure 4.12-7. The area that was burned is mostly comprised of sagebrush. Because the fire was not related to Colowyo's mining activities, Colowyo, as the surface landowner will reseed or managed the post-fire area, as it deems appropriate.

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. owns and operates a 138kV power line that traverses through the east portion of the permit boundary. The 138kV line runs north to south through the reclaimed East Pit, and just east of the reclaimed Section 16 Pit. To ensure access to all pole locations along the power line for maintenance and emergency repairs, Tri-State will be improving existing ranch roads and/or constructing new roads to access their power line within the permit boundary. Most of this activity will take place south of the reclaimed East Pit and outside of Colowyo's ground disturbance and reclamation areas. Nonetheless, some of these access locations will traverse across Phase III released areas (Section 16 reclamation areas) and reclaimed areas including reclamation units EP056 and EP060 (please see annual reclamation report maps for the location of these reclamation units). For the approximate alignment for this access road please see Map 22A. Since these ground disturbing activities are not related to Colowyo's mining activities, the roads will not be permitted and bonded for in accordance with Rule 3.02.1(2).

In July of 2020, a wild land fire (named the Streeter Fire) started burning within Colowyo's permit boundary (outside of the disturbance boundary) north of the lower segment of the Streeter Ditch and Streeter Pond. The fire continued to burn north outside of Colowyo's permit boundary. The area that was burned within the permit boundary is mostly comprised of pinyon junipers and sagebrush. Because the fire was not related to Colowyo's mining activities, Colowyo, as the mine operator is not responsible for starting the fire nor managing the areas burned post fire. The surface landowners impacted by the fire will manage the post-fire area, as they deem appropriate.

In 2021, White River Electric Association upgraded their existing power line within the permit boundary and added to this existing line along Moffat County Road 51 to service customers in the area of Wilson Creek. All ground disturbing activities associated with the upgraded power line and the new power line construction is associated with White River Electrical Association and not Colowyo; therefore, it is not permitted for Colowyo nor required to be bonded for in accordance with Rule 3.02.1(2).