



August 7, 2023

Miranda Kawcak Manager, Environmental Peabody Twentymile Coal, LLC 29515 Routt County Rd #271 Oak Creek, CO 80467

RE: Cultural Resource Inventory of Peabody Twentymile Coal's Proposed Drill Pads and Bleeder Sites, Routt County, Colorado

Dear Ms. Kawcak,

Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc. conducted a Class III cultural resource inventory for Peabody for proposed facilities at their Twentymile Coal Mine in Oak Creek, Colorado on July 19, 2023. The project is located on privately owned land and minerals, but the project's mining permits will be reviewed by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS). Therefore, the investigation reported here is required by the DRMS to facilitate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and other applicable federal legislation and regulations by providing information on the presence of cultural resources, recommendations about resource eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and recommendations for Section 106 findings pertaining to effect when historic properties are present.

This letter report serves as a preliminary summary of results of the survey described herein. Metcalf is also currently conducting a small second phase of this project to Class III inventory approximately 15 miles of associated access routes that are proposed for travel to these facilities. A second letter report and map will follow that fieldwork to summarize our results. Lastly, Metcalf will prepare a formal report of our results of both surveys and provide copies to Peabody and DRMS for review. Once approved, DRMS will send a copy of Metcalf's report to Colorado's Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) to complete the consultation process.

The current investigation involved the Class III pedestrian survey of 8 small drill pad locations and one larger bleeder site (6E) (see the attached location map) in Sections 8, 9, and 15 of Township 5N, Range 86W. These locations will be accessed via existing roads as well as several cross-country routes that will be surveyed by Metcalf (in progress).

The archaeological survey resulted in no new finds of cultural resources (no archaeological or historical sites). One previously recorded historic segment of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Energy Spur (5RT3259.1) as well as one isolated find (5RT2551) are located within the proposed 6E bleeder site. The railroad segment has been recommended non-supporting of the overall railroad's National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility (2015), and the isolated find is not eligible to the NRHP. Further, it is not anticipated that the railroad segment will be impacted by any construction. Therefore, Metcalf offers a preliminary recommendation of 'no historic properties affected" for this project, until additional survey is finished.

Sincerely,

Melissa Elkins

Melissa Elkins Project Manager Metcalf, Eagle CO office 719-238-2106



State

NAD 1983 UTM Zone 13N