



## MEMORANDUM

Date: April 7, 2025  
To: Hunter Ridley, DRMS  
From: Brock Bowles, DRMS  
RE: Colowyo Mine (C-1981-019),  
TR-166, Reclamation Plan Revision Review

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TR-166 is proposing to change its topsoil distribution plan and adjust the wildlife and grazing seed mix.

Between 2010 and 2024, Colowyo implemented a variable topsoil depth replacement plan intended to mimic natural soil conditions that favor the establishment of various plant communities. However, several years of monitoring data indicate that the approach did not produce the desired outcomes. TR166 is proposing to revert to the uniform topsoil replacement plan used prior to 2010. This method aligns with industry standards and complies with Rule 4.06.4(2)(a). The proposed uniform depth of nine inches for both wildlife and grazing land post mining land use areas is considered appropriate. Colowyo has also demonstrated through its ARR that a sufficient amount of topsoil is stockpiled to support the proposed plan.

The current wildlife seed mix was designed to favor sagebrush establishment in conjunction with the variable topsoil depth plan. TR166 is proposing to adjust the seed mix to account for the uniform topsoil distribution by adding some sod forming grass for better erosion control. The species outlined in the seed mix aligns with Rule 4.15.2 as they are aligned with the post mining land use and compatible with the animal species of the area.

No issues were noted and the proposed changes are in compliance with the Rules.

