

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR MINOR REVISION  
COAL AND URANIUM PROGRAM  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

COMPANY NAME: Signal Peak Energy, LLC.

DATE: July 15, 2009

OPERATING PERMIT#: 93017

MR#: 09-17-13

LOCATION: Bull Mountain Mine, Subsidence Monitoring Plan, Musselshell Co.

Type and Purpose of Action:

The proponent has requested approval to modify the mining permit as it relates to collecting surface topography data before and during mining. The data will provide information concerning the surface subsidence which is expected to take place as coal is removed from the underground mine. More specifically, the proponent requests that the development of pre-mine topography data be processed into contour maps as needed rather than prior to mining as the permit currently requires. Other changes include specifics of data collection point and collection frequency. The action is largely administrative and should not result in significant changes to actions on the ground.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The action will make a minor change to the quantity and location of survey monuments and the subsequent collection of survey data which has already been permitted. There will be some land disturbance associated with the installation of survey monuments and data collection primarily in the form of travel to and from the monuments. Actions that might mitigate impacts would include avoiding travel during wet conditions. The change in environmental impacts due to approval of this change should be negligible.

Alternative Actions:

No alternative actions were analyzed.