

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

COMPANY NAME: Cloud Peak Energy

DATE: 06/01/2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 79012

LOCATION: Spring Creek Mine

Type and Purpose of Action:

The type of state action proposed is approval or disapproval of a minor revision to a surface coal mine permit: Permit 79012. The purpose of the action is to allow expansion of mining into an area contiguous to the currently approved mine area. The expansion is proposed within an area already approved for disturbance. Approximately 100,000 tons of additional coal would be recovered. No changes to the reclamation plan would be anticipated.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

Approval of the proposed change to mining would have no negative impact and thus would require no mitigation.

Alternative Actions:

No alternatives are necessary.

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Title: Mining Engineer