

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

COMPANY NAME: Cloud Peak Energy

DATE: July 21, 2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 85003C

MR#: 06-12-01

LOCATION: Spring Creek Mine

Type and Purpose of Action:

Spring Creek Mine is requesting approval to replace an existing western wheatgrass reference area with a new area on BLM surface. The mine will fence the area to exclude grazing and conduct vegetation data collection in the area.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

No impacts are anticipated with replacing one reference area for another. No disturbance is associated with reference areas. The area will be used for collection of vegetation data only.

Alternative Actions:

No alternative actions were considered.

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