

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

COMPANY NAME: Westmoreland Savage Corp.      DATE: July 27, 2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 84002      MR#: MR10-02-01

LOCATION: The revision affects the entire permit area.

Type and Purpose of Action:

Westmoreland Savage Corporation (WSC) has proposed to reduce the wildlife monitoring effort by ceasing to conduct the "perching bird survey." The current commitments in the permit under 17.24.723 require WSC to conduct the perching bird survey once every three years. This survey has been completed six times in the past 17 years and the company believes that the additional usefulness of this information is limited.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The proposed permit modification has limited impacts as this survey is a driving survey conducted on existing roads. Discontinuing the survey has the potential to reduce vehicle traffic on a single day, once every three years.

Alternative Actions:

The no action alternative would be to continue the wildlife monitoring as currently approved.

Other alternative actions considered would be to modify or increase the existing wildlife monitoring plan. This alternative action would be an increase in potential impacts from the proposed permit revision.

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