

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

COMPANY NAME: Signal Peak Energy, LLC

DATE: August 30, 2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 93017

MR#: 10-17-10

LOCATION: Bull Mountains Mine: T6N, R26E, Section13

Type and Purpose of Action:

The Mine is proposing to construct a section of road within the mine permit area which will allow vehicle access from the mine facilities area to the adjacent valley being used as the coal Waste Disposal Area (WDA). The road will be 1,700 feet long with a width of 36 feet for driving lanes. Road construction will entail balanced cut and fills with the maximum cut being approximately 40 feet. The road will be reclaimed when no longer needed for mining purposes. However, depending on the location of any future waste disposal areas, the road may continue to serve as access to those as well.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

Disturbance of soil resources would occur, less than 5 acres. Some noise and dust can be expected during construction. Soils will be salvaged then replaced and revegetated upon reclamation. Some exposure of sandstone outcrop can be expected which may not be feasible to completely cover. The potential impacts are expected to be minor.

Alternative Actions:

Other route locations on the mine property are possible but do not appear to offer any environmental advantages over the route being considered. The possibility of using the adjacent county road was considered but rejected due to complications associated with running mine equipment on a public road and the danger to the public.

Prepared by: David Adair

Title: Mine Engineer