

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

COMPANY NAME: Spring Creek Coal, LLC

DATE: October 5, 2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 79012

MR#: 10-12-14

LOCATION: T8S, R39E, Section 24

Type and Purpose of Action:

Minor revision 10-12-14 requests creating two new topsoil stockpile footprints in Section 24 of the permit area.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The potential impacts are changes to soils and topography to accommodate the soil stockpiles. Except for a small portion of the stockpile footprint, the impacts are within the planned mining disturbance limits proposed for permit revision and if approved the footprint impact would be negligible.

Alternative Actions:

There are three alternatives. The stockpile footprints could be placed in an alternate location, soils could be left in place and wasted through the mining process, or the soil could be direct hauled to reclamation if recontoured surface is available.

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