

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

COMPANY NAME: Big Sky Coal Company

DATE: October 29, 2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 83004CR

MR#: 09-04-02A

LOCATION: Big Sky Mine Near Colstrip, MT

Type and Purpose of Action:

Big Sky proposes a minor revision to SMP 83004CR. The proposed revision includes changes to the narrative addressing "Light Duty Roads". Changes to the narrative would better define construction methods used and standards for light duty roads proposed as part of the final reclamation plan. These roads would support the post-mine land use.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

There would be no negative impacts associated with the proposed changes to the permit. If approved, specific construction methods would be allowed and performance standards would be better defined. Better defined performance standards would facilitate bond release. No mitigation would be necessary.

Alternative Actions:

One alternative would be to not approve the request.

Prepared by: Peter Mahrt

Title: Mine Engineer