

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

COMPANY NAME: Decker Coal Company

DATE: 01/25/2011

OPERATING PERMIT#: SMP 87001C

MR#: 11-01-01

LOCATION: West Decker

Type and Purpose of Action:

The type of state action proposed is approval or disapproval of a minor revision to Permit 87001C. The purpose of the action is to account for reclamation progress and changes to the grading and backfilling section of permit. In particular, this MR proposes to alter the post mining topography (PMT) in the F-Section, Pit 11 reclamation to lower the spoil needed for this area. That material will then be used to facilitate the reclamation of an adjacent Area.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The land area under consideration has already been mined through and is heavily disturbed. The MR makes relatively minor changes to the final surface topography. The drainage basins and major land and hydrologic characteristics will be unchanged from those previously approved. The permitted reclamation practices will be adhered to.

Approval of the proposed changes to the grading and backfilling plan would have no negative impact and thus would require no mitigation.

Alternative Actions:

No alternatives are necessary.

Prepared by: David Adair
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