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

COMPANY NAME: Decker Coal Company DATE: February 10, 2011

OPERATING PERMIT# : 87001C MR#: MR_10-01-03

LOCATION: The revision affects the entire permit area.

Type and Purpose of Action:

Decker Coal Company has proposed to reduce big game monitoring surveys. Decker Coal Company is currently required to annually complete four aerial big game surveys and one driving route pronghorn sex/age ratio survey. The proposed revision will reduce the monitoring effort to one big game aerial survey per year.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The proposed permit modification has limited environmental impacts. Modifying the wildlife monitoring requirements as proposed has the potential to reduce vehicle and air traffic within the permit area.

Alternative Actions:

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

The expected impacts will be very minor and it is not necessary to consider alternative actions.

Prepared by: Eric Urban

Title: Technical Coordinator/Wildlife Biologist