

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

COMPANY NAME: Westmoreland Resources, Inc.

DATE: December 7, 2011

PERMIT#: C1985005

REVISION NO: MR259

LOCATION: Absaloka Mine, T1S R38E Section 9

Type and Purpose of Action:

Westmoreland Resources, Inc. submitted a request for a minor revision to the permit. The purpose of this revision is to remove the arch for crossing of the Middle Fork of Sarpy Creek and replace it with three (3) 72" culverts and to revise the alignment of the crossing. Exhibits B-3, B-22 Plate 1 and 2, and B-34 Plate1 of the permit would be changed if this revision was approved.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

No additional impacts above those already addressed in previous assessments would be expected. The total disturbance footprint of the approved crossing would be approximately 250 feet. The proposed plan would remove the dragline walkway and there-by reduce the approved disturbance footprint by approximately 100 feet.

Alternative Actions:

The approved plan for a concrete arc drainage crossing structure was considered.

Prepared by: Peter Mahrt

Title: Mine Engineer

FC: 620.359