

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

COMPANY NAME: Signal Peak Energy      DATE: January 3, 2012

PERMIT#: C1993017      REVISION NO: MR133

LOCATION: Bull Mountain Mine, T6N, R27E, S18 &20, Musselshell Co.

Type and Purpose of Action:

The mine operator is proposing to designate a section of improved two track road as a secondary access road and install five sets of culverts under the road which is currently being used for access for mine operations. The culverts will allow an ephemeral drainage to pass the 10 year, 24 hour rainfall event. The road location was used prior to the mine by a ranch operation as a "two-track" to access the property. The road was previously improved by the ranch operation with some minor cuts and fills. The operator has made minor additional cut and fills to allow more reliable access for larger vehicles.

The operator is proposing to leave the culverts and road upgrades in place as an improvement to the ranch operation after mining has been completed.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

There will be potential for sediment transport during, and immediately after, construction due to the land disturbance. The operator has a permit commitment to use the best technology currently available to address sediment. This may include practices such as installing silt fence or waddles and seeding the disturbed areas at the first available opportunity.

The proposal to leave the culverts in as a permanent improvement is not expected to have an additional long term environmental impact above and beyond the current condition. The previous ranch operation created sediment and disturbance at each of the channel crossings and utilized damaging overland routes due to difficult access.

Alternative Actions:

None considered

Prepared by: David Adair  
Title: Mining Engineer

FC: 620.97 (MR133)