

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

COMPANY NAME: Westmoreland Resources Inc.

DATE: 12/5/2010

OPERATING PERMIT#: 85005

MR#: 10-05-09

LOCATION: Absaloka Mine

Type and Purpose of Action:

The operator proposes to construct a "Ready Line" within the facilities area. The facility will provide electrical connections for plugging in heaters to keep vehicle motors warm and ready to start in cold weather. Additional soil salvage would be completed and a small scoria knob graded to provide a level area for vehicle parking. The electrical power supply would be constructed to be consistent with the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) 2006, Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines: The State of the Art in 2006, standards.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

This would be a small facility within the larger facilities area; therefore, impacts would be minimal. As only electrical outlets will be provided and no fueling or lubrication activities will take place at the site, the potential for environmental contamination is minimized.

Alternative Actions:

The no action alternative was considered; however, this alternative would not allow the operator to maintain vehicles in a ready condition.

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Title: Program Supervisor