

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

COMPANY NAME: Spring Creek Coal, LLC

DATE: July 31, 2012

PERMIT#: C1979012

REVISION NO: MR163

LOCATION: Spring Creek Coal Mine

Type and Purpose of Action:

The MR seeks to permit a raw coal yard near the mine's paved access road. The facility would be used to distribute raw coal to local markets via semi-trucks (owned and operated by others). Work would include topsoil stripping, topsoil stockpiling, construction of a new access drive, and general earthwork to route all surface drainage associated with the project to a new sediment trap.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

Impacts will include the noise and dust associated with initial earthwork. Surface vegetation will be disturbed. The proposed facility is located on SCC owned land within the permitted life-of-mine disturbance limit, so will be reclaimed in accordance with standard methods described in Section 17.24.313. Topsoil stripping and stockpiling of new soil will be conducted in accordance with Sections 17.24.701 and 702. Best available practices will be utilized to minimize sediment transport off of the disturbed areas and minimize hydrologic impacts.

Alternative Actions:

No alternatives were considered.

Prepared by: Ric Casteel

Title: Environmental Engineer

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