

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

COMPANY NAME: Signal Peak Energy LLC

DATE: August 10, 2012

PERMIT#: C1993017

REVISION NO: MR156

LOCATION: Bull Mountain Mine, T6N, R27E, S29 & 33, Musselshell Co.

Type and Purpose of Action:

The mine operator is proposing to drill a new borehole from the surface into the underground mine and utilize two existing borehole for injecting concrete into the mine. The injection process will require temporary storage of materials and use of equipment such as generators and pumps near the borehole locations. Access to two of the holes is expected to be over existing two track roads. Access to the third hole will be more challenging and the operator has stated intent to pump the concrete from an accessible location rather than construct road improvements. Road improvements, if necessary, are expected to be less than 400 feet in extent.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

Some amount of disturbance to vegetation is expected due to vehicle traffic on roads and pads. The operator commits to minimizing that disturbance by not stripping topsoil unless necessary and minimizing contamination of the soils with drill cuttings and injection materials. If grass is damaged then the damaged area will be re-seeded with currently approved permanent seed mix. Any tertiary road design and the associated sediment control plan and reclamation plan are already included in SPE's approved permit.

Alternative Actions:

The action is required by MSHA and is necessary to protect the safety of underground workers. The location of the underground works largely dictates the location of the holes. No better alternatives are apparent.

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