

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

COMPANY NAME: Signal Peak Energy LLC

DATE: August 23, 2013

PERMIT#: C1993017

REVISION NO: MR178

LOCATION: Bull Mountain Mine, Musselshell Co, Yellowstone Co.

Type and Purpose of Action:

This revision to the mining permit would allow the mine to construct additional boreholes on existing borehole pads without the submittal of an additional MR under certain conditions.

Under the following conditions no specific MR will be required:

- (1) No additional disturbance or facilities to that which is already permitted will result
- (2) No change to design of pad to that which is already permitted will result
- (3) Borehole is of type already permissible and described in this operations plan text
- (4) No adverse affects to environment will result from activity

The current time frame requirements for the MR review process unnecessarily complicate the mining process as boreholes are an ongoing component and need of the operation.

Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures:

The action is largely administrative in nature. The conditions under which an MR will not be required are those conditions under which the boreholes would be approved under review. Proposed Bore holes that require additional disturbance would be subject to the MR review process.

Alternative Actions:

Not approving this change adds delays to the mining with no significant improvement in environmental protection.

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