



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Western Region Office
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202-3050



October 22, 2013

Dear Interested Public Land User,

You previously received a letter from me dated September 26, 2013, regarding the public outreach meeting for the Environmental Assessment (EA) to be prepared by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Western Region Office, in support of a decision on the proposed Colowyo Coal Mine, Collom Permit Expansion Area Project Mining Plan. This letter is to inform you that the outreach meeting originally scheduled for October 10, 2013, and subsequently postponed due to the federal government shutdown, has been rescheduled. ***The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2013, at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Little Snake Field Office (LSFO) 455 Emerson Street, Craig, Colorado 81625, from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM.***

The public comment period for the project will be extended from October 31, 2013, to November 14, 2013, because of the postponement of the previously scheduled public outreach meeting. Your comments will help to determine the issues and alternatives that will be evaluated in the environmental analysis. Comments may continue to be emailed to OSM-Colowyo-Mine-EA@osmre.gov and mailed to OSM Colowyo Mine EA, C/O Foster Kirby or Nicole Caveny, Western Region Office, OSM, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, CO 80202-3050. If you have previously commented, there is no need to resubmit those comments.

The Colowyo Coal Mine is located approximately 26 miles southwest of Craig, Colorado and 22 miles north-northeast of Meeker, Colorado, west of Colorado Highway 13/789 in southwest Moffat and northern Rio Blanco Counties, Colorado. Colowyo proposes mining two pits using truck/shovel and dragline surface mining techniques. Coal would be hauled to a primary crusher then transported along the west fork and main stem of Jubba Creek to the Gossard loadout. Additional mine support facilities would be constructed on adjacent private and state lands. Reclamation, including backfill and grading, replacement of topsoil, and revegetation, would begin as soon as possible after coal is removed. Proposed mining operations would disturb a total area of 2,244.22 acres over the anticipated 20 to 40 year life of the project. OSM is preparing this EA to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the proposed mining plan. OSM will serve as the lead agency for the preparation of the EA and the BLM LSFO will be a cooperating agency. This EA will update, clarify and provide new and additional environmental information based on the proposed mining operations. It will also address the cumulative effects of the project.

Additional information regarding this project may be obtained from Foster Kirby or Nicole Caveny, Western Region Office, OSM, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, CO 80202-3050, telephone numbers (303) 293-5039 and (303) 293-5078, respectively. When available, the EA and associated documents will also be posted at:

http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/current_initiatives/Colowyo/Colowyo.shtm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine Ramsey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Elaine Ramsey, Manager
Field Operations Branch