

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND ADOPTION  
OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
FOR  
Bowie Resources, LLC  
Bowie No. 2 Mine  
Federal Coal Lease COC75916  
Mining Plan Decision Document

A. Introduction

Bowie Resources, LLC on March 12, 2014, submitted permit revision No. 14 to the permit application package (PAP) for the Bowie No. 2 Mine to the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS). CDRMS approved the permit revision on November 17, 2014. The permit revision proposes extending underground mining operations into 1,789 federal coal acres within the new Federal Lease COC75916. Under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, as designated by the Secretary of the Interior, must approve, approve with conditions, or disapprove the proposed mining plan modification for Federal Coal Lease COC75916. Pursuant to 30 CFR Part 746, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is recommending approval of the mining plan modification without special conditions.

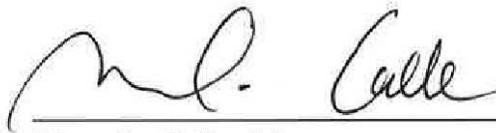
B. Statement of Environmental Significance of the Proposed Action

The undersigned person has determined that the above-named proposed action would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment under section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), and therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

This Statement of NEPA Adoption and Compliance is based on the attached *United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Final Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2013-0010 EA, September 2013, Spruce Stomp Coal Lease by Application*, the associated FONSI, the *Combined Geologic and Engineering Report (GER)* and the *Maximum Economic Recovery Report (MER)* which was prepared by the Uncompahgre Field Office of the Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM). OSMRE was a cooperating agency in the development of the Environmental Assessment (EA). In accordance with 43 CFR 46.320, OSMRE has independently reviewed the EA and finds that the EA complies with 43 CFR Part 46, Subpart D, the relevant provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations and other program requirements, including impacts of greenhouse gases and global climate change. Based on this review, OSMRE has adopted the EA prepared by the BLM and referenced above. This finding is also based on consideration of the CEQ criteria for significance (40 CFR 1508.27), both with regard to the context and to the intensity of the impacts described in the EA.

In addition, BLM's review and approval of the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan, the PAP, and CDRMS's Written Findings for the permit revision No. 14 to the PAP have been independently reviewed by OSMRE. These documents reviewed in conjunction with the referenced EA adequately and accurately assess the environmental impacts of the proposed mining plan modification.

The undersigned has also determined that OSMRE's public involvement requirements for EAs have been met. The EA was subject to public review and comment prior to publication of the final EA. Fifteen comments on the EA were received. Those comments were reviewed and analyzed by the BLM and all comments were considered in the development of the final EA. There were four comments on the permit revision No. 14 to the PAP which were analyzed and taken into consideration by CDRMS. In addition, the referenced EA and this FONSI will be made publicly available on the OSMRE Western Region's website.



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Marcelo Calle, Manager  
Field Operations Branch  
Program Support Division  
Western Region

12/18/2014

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Date

Attachment