

## **Availability of an Environmental Assessment for Public Review and Comment Antelope Mine Federal Mining Plan Modification**

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations and the Department of the Interior (DOI) procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) 42 U.S.C. 43332(2) (C), the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed mining plan modification for the Antelope Mine lease by modification (LBM) to federal coal lease WYW-177903 (West Antelope II South Modification Tract). OSMRE is responsible for reviewing plans to conduct coal mining and reclamation operations on lands containing leased Federal coal. Pursuant to 30 CFR 746, OSMRE must prepare and submit to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management (ASLM), a decision document recommending approval, conditional approval, or disapproval of the proposed mining plan modification. ASLM approval of a mining plan modification would authorize mining activities to produce an estimated 15.8 million tons (Mt) of coal at an estimated rate of 30 Mt per year from federal coal lease WYW-177903. Antelope Coal, LLC owns and operates the Antelope Mine, which is located in Campbell and Converse counties, Wyoming, approximately 20 miles south of Wright, Wyoming, east of Wyoming State Highway 59.

OSMRE invites the public to comment on the EA and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) available for public review. The EA and unsigned FONSI will be available for review as of May 8, 2020. All comments must be post marked by June 8, 2020 for consideration.

The EA and unsigned FONSI can be reviewed online at the following OSMRE website:

<https://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/westAntelopeMine.shtm>

A hard copy of the EA and unsigned FONSI are available upon request.

You are invited to direct your comments to:

ATTN: West Antelope II South Modification EA  
C/O: Gretchen Pinkham  
OSMRE Western Region  
P.O. Box 25065  
Lakewood, CO 80225-0065

Comments may also be emailed to: [osm-nepa-wy@osmre.gov](mailto:osm-nepa-wy@osmre.gov). Be sure to send emails with the subject line:

ATTN: West Antelope II South Modification EA

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – will be publicly available. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be available for public review to the extent consistent with applicable law. Additional information regarding this Project may be obtained from Gretchen Pinkham at (303) 293-5088 or at the project website:

<https://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/westantelopeMine.shtm>