



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
Western Region Office  
Denver Federal Center, Building 41,  
PO Box 25065,  
Lakewood, CO 80225-0065



May 15, 2020

## **RE: Availability of an Environmental Assessment for a Proposed Federal Significant Permit Revision for the Centralia Coal Mine**

Dear Interested Party,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for TransAlta Centralia Mining LLC's (TCM's) Centralia Coal Mine significant permit revision for OSMRE Permit No. WA-0001E.

The OSMRE is responsible for reviewing plans to conduct coal mining and reclamation operations on lands containing leased Federal coal. OSMRE is announcing that the EA is available online and is requesting public comments on the document.

TCM is proposing the following significant revision of the existing surface coal mining permit and Permit Application Package (PAP): The proposed significant permit revision would change the land-use designation of approximately 130 acres from forestry to permanent impoundment (a lake). The Centralia Mine is located within Sections 31-35, Township 15 North, Range 1 West, W.M., Lewis County, Washington.

If no action is taken, TCM would continue to conduct reclamation activities per their current permit.

Interested persons may view the EA on the OSMRE website at:  
<https://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/centraliaMine.shtm>.

This notice initiates the public comment process on the EA and unsigned FONSI. To ensure consideration of your comments, we must receive your electronic or written comments **June 15, 2020**. Comments may be submitted in writing or by e-mail. At the top of your letter or in the subject line of your e-mail message, please indicate that the comments are "Centralia Mine EA Comments."

- E-mail comments should be sent to: [gpinkham@osmre.gov](mailto:gpinkham@osmre.gov)
- Comments delivered by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or by courier service must be delivered by **June 15, 2020** and should be sent to:

OSMRE-Western Region  
ATTN: Gretchen Pinkham, Centralia Mine  
Denver Federal Center, Building 41,  
PO Box 25065,  
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Comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public inspection. By including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personally identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. 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.

For further information about the Project, NEPA Process, or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact: Gretchen Pinkham, OSMRE Project Manager, at [gpinkham@osmre.gov](mailto:gpinkham@osmre.gov).

5/6/2020

X

Signed by: MYCHAL YELLOWMAN  
Mychal Yellowman  
Manager, Indian & Washington Programs Branch  
OSMRE – Western Region