



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
Western Region Office  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320  
Denver, CO 80202-3050



April 26, 2019

## **RE: Availability of an Environmental Assessment for a Proposed Federal Minor 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 minor permit revision for OSMRE Permit No. WA-0001E. See Figure 1 for the location of the Mine and the Amendment area.

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.

The proposed minor permit revision would change the land use designation of approximately 81 acres within the Centralia Mine permit area, to allow for a 150-foot-wide powerline corridor for the Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project. The Centralia Mine is located within Sections 31-35, Township 15 North, Range 1 West, W.M., Lewis County, Washington. In September 2018 TCM entered into an easement agreement with Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project, LLC, which would allow the proposed powerline corridor easement and access for construction and maintenance.

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 2019 EA. To ensure consideration of your comments, we must receive your electronic or written comments by **May 28, 2019**. 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 Coal 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 **May 28, 2019** and should be sent to:

OSMRE-Western Region  
ATTN: Gretchen Pinkham, Centralia Coal Mine EA  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320  
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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 publically 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 303-293-5088.

Mychal Yellowman  
OSMRE

Enclosure

