

Availability of an Environmental Assessment for Public Review and Comment Cordero Rojo 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 Duvall Tract at the Cordero Rojo Mine. 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 55.8 million tons (Mt) of coal at an estimated rate of 20 Mt per year from Cordero Rojo federal coal lease WYW174407 and add an additional 852.1 acres of surface disturbance. Cordero Mining Company (CMC) owns and operates the Cordero Rojo Coal Mine, which is located in Campbell County, Wyoming, approximately 15 miles south-southeast of Gillette, Wyoming, east of Wyoming State Highway 59, in central Campbell County, Wyoming.

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 July 6, 2017. All comments must be post marked by August 7, 2017 for consideration.

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

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

A hard copy of the EA and unsigned FONSI will also be available for review at the following locations:

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Western Region
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202
Between the hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday
(Closed Saturday and Sunday)

Campbell County Courthouse
500 S. Gillette Ave.
Gillette, WY 82716
Between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday
(Closed Saturday and Sunday)

Campbell County Public Library
2101 S 4-J Rd
Gillette, WY 82718
Between the hours of 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM, Monday to Thursday; between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Friday and Saturday; (Closed Sunday)

You are invited to direct your comments to:

ATTN: Cordero Rojo Mine Amendment EA
C/O: Logan Sholar
OSMRE WR
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202-3050

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

ATTN: Cordero Rojo Mine Amendment 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 Logan Sholar at (303) 293-5036 or at lsholar@osmre.gov.