



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Lyman Gui
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1330
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Gui,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado
Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENW, and Sec. 20, NWNW
Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

1. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
2. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
3. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
4. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



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Governor Eddie Hamilton
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 38
Concho, Oklahoma 73022

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Chairman Harold Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 590
Eagle Butte, South Dakota 57625

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Chairman Wallace Coffey
Comanche Nation
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, Oklahoma 73502

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Chairwoman Roxanne Sazue
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 50
Fort Thompson, South Dakota 57339

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If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Alvin Not Afraid
Crow Nation
P.O. Box 129
Crow Agency, Montana 59022

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Not Afraid,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado
Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENW, and Sec. 20, NWNW
Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
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Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

21. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
22. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
23. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
24. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Darwin St. Clair Jr.
Eastern Shoshone Tribe
P.O. Box 538
Fort Washakie, Wyoming 82514

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman St. Clair Jr.,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

25. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
26. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
27. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
28. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
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1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Jeff Haozous
Fort Sill Apache Tribe
43187 US Hwy 281
Apache, Oklahoma 73006

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Haozous,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

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30. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
31. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
32. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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In Reply Refer To: 3432
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June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Herman Honanie
The Hopi Tribe
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Honanie,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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34. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
35. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Ty Vicenti
Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 507
Dulce, New Mexico 87528

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Vicenti,

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Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Daniel Coriz
Kewa Pueblo
P.O. Box 99
Santo Domingo Pueblo, New Mexico 87052

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Coriz,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado
Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENW, and Sec. 20, NWNW
Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

41. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
42. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
43. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
44. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Amber Toppah
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 369
Carnegie, Oklahoma 73015

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Toppah,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less

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45. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
46. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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48. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

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WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Danny Breuninger
Mescalero
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, New Mexico 88340

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Breuninger,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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In Reply Refer To: 3432
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June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Russell Begay
Navajo Nation
P.O. Box 7440
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

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WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Dean Goggles
Northern Arapho Tribe
P.O. Box 396
Fort Washakie, Wyoming 82514

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

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The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Llevando Fisher
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, Montana 59043

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Fisher,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

61. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
62. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
63. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
64. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President John Steele
Oglala Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 2070
Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Steele,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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68. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Earl Salazar
Ohkay Owingeh (Pueblo of San Juan)
P.O. Box 1099
San Juan, New Mexico 87566

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Salazar,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Principal Chief Geoffrey Standingbear
Osage Nation
P.O. Box 779 or 627 Grandview
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Principal Chief Standingbear,

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United States Department of the Interior



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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairwoman Corrina Bow
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
440 North Paiute Dr.
Cedar City, Utah 84721

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairwoman Bow,

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78. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
79. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
80. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Bruce Pratt
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
881 Little Dee Drive
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Pratt,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

81. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
82. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
83. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
84. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Kurt Riley
Pueblo of Acoma
P.O. Box 309
Acoma, New Mexico 87034

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Riley,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

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85. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
86. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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88. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Nicholas Garcia
Pueblo de Cochiti
P.O. Box 70
Cochiti, New Mexico 87072

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Garcia,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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89. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
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92. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Paul Torres
Pueblo of Isleta
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta, New Mexico 87022

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Torres,

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor David Yepa
Pueblo of Jemez
P.O. Box 100
Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico 87024

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Yepa,

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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

97. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
98. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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100. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Virgil Siow
Pueblo of Laguna
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, New Mexico 87026

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Siow,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
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101. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
102. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
103. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
104. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Phillip Perez
Pueblo of Nambe
Route 1 Box 117-BB
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Perez,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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105. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
106. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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108. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Gary Pyne
Pueblo of Picuris
P.O. Box 127
Penasco, New Mexico 87553

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Pyne,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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109. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
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United States Department of the Interior



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1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Joseph Talachy
Pueblo of Pojoaque
78 Cites of Gold Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Talachy,

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Michael Sandoval
Pueblo of San Felipe
P.O. Box 4339
San Felipe Pueblo, New Mexico 87001

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Sandoval,

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Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

117. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
118. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
119. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
120. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Myron Armijo
Pueblo of Santa Ana
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico 87004

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Armijo,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado
Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SE, and Sec. 20, NWNW
Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
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121. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
122. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
123. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
124. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Michael Chavarria
Pueblo of Santa Clara
P.O. Box 580
Española, New Mexico 87532

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Chavarria,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
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Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

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125. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
126. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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128. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

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Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Benito Sandoval
Pueblo of Taos
P.O. Box 1846
Taos, New Mexico 87271

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Sandoval,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less

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129. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Frederick Vigil
Pueblo of Tesuque
Route 42 Box 360-T
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Vigil,

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United States Department of the Interior



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Colorado State Office
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WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Jerome Lucero
Pueblo of Zia
135 Capitol Square Drive
Zia Pueblo, New Mexico 87053-6013

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Lucero,

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T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8
Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

137. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
138. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
139. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
140. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President William Kindle
Rosebud Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 430
Rosebud, South Dakota 57570

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear President Kindle,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado
Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENW, and Sec. 20, NWNW
Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
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Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

141. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
142. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
143. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
144. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Blaine Edmo
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
P.O. Box 306
Fort Hall, Idaho 83203

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Edmo,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado

Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENE, and Sec. 20, NWNW

Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;

T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8

Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

145. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
146. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
147. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
148. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

NAGPRA Contact Bill Larae
NAGPRA
P.O. Box 306
Fort Hall, Idaho 83203

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear NAGPRA Contact Larae,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

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Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;
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Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less
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Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
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Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

149. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
150. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
151. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
152. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Clement Frost
Southern Ute Indian Tribe
356 Ouray Drive, P.O. Box 737
Ignacio, Colorado 81137

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Frost,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

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Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Dave Archambault II
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
North Standing Rock Ave. Building 1 P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, North Dakota 58538

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Archambault II,

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160. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Mark Fox
Three Affiliated Tribes
404 Frontage Road
New Town, North Dakota 58763

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Fox,

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Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Shaun Chapoose
Ute Indian Tribe (Uintah & Ouray Reservation)
P.O. Box 190
Ft. Duchesne, Utah 84026

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Chapoose,

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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Chairman Harold Cuthair
Ute Mountain Tribe
P.O. Box JJ
Towaoc, Colorado 81334-0248

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Chairman Cuthair,

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Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

President Terri Parton
Wichita & Affiliated Tribes
P.O. Box 729
Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

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GCC King II Coal Mine**

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Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Carlos Hisa
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
P.O. Box 17579
El Paso, Texas 79907

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OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2011-0074-EA
GCC King II Coal Mine**

Dear Governor Hisa,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, have prepared a joint environmental assessment (EA) and separate unsigned Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSIs) to analyze the environmental impacts of related proposals submitted by GCC Energy, LLC (GCC) for the continued mining of federal coal at the King II Coal Mine in La Plata County, Colorado. The EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA, Departmental Manual Part 516, and additional DOI, BLM, and OSMRE policies and guidance. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic, health and safety, transportation, paleontology, vegetation, wildlife, special status species, noise, visual resources, land use, surface and groundwater resources, cultural resources and soils. Separate decision documents will be issued by each agency.

The King II Mine is located in La Plata County, approximately five miles southwest of Hesperus, Colorado. In 2014, the King II Mine was authorized to produce up to 1.3 million tons of coal annually through federal, State of Colorado, and private mineral leases, with the majority of production under Federal Coal Lease COC62920. At the present mining rate, it is estimated that the coal in the current lease area would be exhausted in less than three years. The four additional tracts would extend the life of the current mine by an estimated five to seven years. Legal description of the proposed lease modification are as follows:

New Mexico Principle Meridian, La Plata County, Colorado

Tract A - containing 220.00 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 19, NE, S2SENW, and Sec. 20, NWNW

Tract B - containing 360.55 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 30, lots 1-4, E2NW, and NWNE;

T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 25, lots 3-8

Tract D - containing 10.00 acres more or less

T. 35 N., R 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 26, SENENE

Tract E - containing 360.00 acres more or less
T. 35 N., R. 12 W., N.M.P.M., Sec. 35, NENW, S2NW, SW, and S2SE
Containing 950.55 acres, more or less.

As Joint Lead Agencies, the BLM and OSMRE analyzed potential impacts to the human environment resulting from, and will make separate decisions regarding, the following proposed federal actions:

177. The BLM must decide whether to: 1) approve, 2) approve with modifications, or 3) deny a modification of existing Federal Coal Lease COC62920 for the King II Coal Mine. If approved, the lease modification would result in the expansion of Federal Coal Lease COC62920 by approximately 950 acres on four tracts adjacent to the current operation. Most of the lease area consists of split estate, in which the federal government manages the subsurface mineral estate, but not the surface lands.
178. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
179. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve an application to renew Federal Mine Permit CO-106A. The permit would reauthorize operations associated with the mining of federal coal from the areas within Federal Coal Lease COC62920 where the surface of the land is under the ownership of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, but outside of the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Reservation.
180. The DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management must decide whether to: 1) approve; 2) approve with conditions; or 3) deny a mining plan modification to incorporate the lease expansion into Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Permit C-1981-035.

The BLM and OSMRE are seeking public comments on the EA and separate unsigned FONSI. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of June 9, 2017. Comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2017 in order to be considered. The EA, maps, and related materials are available on BLM's ePlanning website at: <http://go.usa.gov/x92jw>. Your name and address must be included in order for your submission to be considered. All submissions received will be forwarded to OSMRE.

Email: coalcommenttresrios@blm.gov
Postal Service: BLM Little Snake Field Office
Attn: Jennifer Maiolo - King II Coal Mine EA
455 Emerson St., Craig, CO 81625

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The BLM and OSMRE will host an open house to provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the project and how to provide comments on the EA and unsigned FONSI. Representatives from both agencies will be available to answer questions. The open house will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at the Breen Community Building, 15300 Highway 140 in Hesperus, Colorado.

If you have questions about the BLM coal program or analysis, please contact Jennifer Maiolo at (970) 826-5077 or email jmaiolo@blm.gov. For questions regarding the OSMRE regulatory process, please contact Paul Clark at (303) 293-5065 or email pclark@osmre.gov.



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield St
Lakewood, 80215

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Val Panteah
Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation
P.O. Box 339
Zuni, New Mexico 87327

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OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
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182. OSMRE must decide whether or not to approve a Permit Revision Application Package consisting of a water monitoring program, Probable Hydrologic Consequences analysis, Right of Entry information, Subsidence Control Plan, and an Operations and Reclamation Plan.
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OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
WESTERN REGION
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, CO 80202

In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor James Mountain
Pueblo of San Idefonso
02 Tunyo Po
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

**OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
OPTIONAL REPLY BY JULY 10, 2017
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In Reply Refer To: 3432
COC-62920 (COS01000)

June 9, 2017

CO-0106

Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Governor Isaac Lujan
Pueblo of Sandia
481 Sandia Loop
Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004

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