



## Trapper Mine, C-07519 and C-079641, Environmental Assessment

# COAL COMBUSTION RESIDUALS

### Craig Generating Station Produces Coal Combustion Residuals (CCRs)

- CCR is a byproduct from burning coal from Trapper and other coal sources
- CCR consists of fly ash, bottom ash, and scrubber sludge
- 45% of this CCR is recycled into industrial materials – cement products, wallboard, road base
- 55% of this CCR is used in Trapper Mine reclamation as structural fill

### CCR Placement in Trapper Mine Pits

- Regulated by Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and Moffat County
- Requirements Include:
  - Permits
  - Baseline hydrologic impact studies and material characteristic testing
  - Disposal practices to isolate CCR from water resources
  - Pre- and post- CCR placement groundwater monitoring
  - Final reclamation requirements
- Placement of CCRs conducted at Trapper Mine since 1984 has been under required permits
- Trapper Mine places an average of 501,000 tons of CCRs per year
- CCR is carefully placed in mine pits to preclude contact with groundwater
- A minimum of 6 feet of cover is placed above the CCR surface
- Areas where CCRs are placed are reclaimed in accordance with Trapper's approved reclamation plan
- Reconstructed drainages on reclaimed areas must be at least 50 feet from CCRs to limit contact with surface water
- Areas reclaimed above CCR placement are indistinguishable from adjacent reclaimed areas

### Testing and Monitoring of CCR

- CCR testing and monitoring are performed in accordance with agency requirements
- Leach testing of CCR indicates a low potential for leaching of toxic metals
- CCRs placed in pits have a relatively low permeability, reducing leach potential
- Percolation tests on mine backfill indicate low infiltration rates, isolating CCRs from groundwater
- Groundwater monitoring since 1985 shows that groundwater quality in backfill associated with CCRs is similar to groundwater quality found in backfill not associated with CCRs

