

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Factory Butte Mine Closure Project
eAMLIS Key UT-245 (Factory Butte)

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Factory Butte Mine Closure Project prepared by the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Richfield Field Office, submitted by the Utah Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program (AMRP). OSMRE has determined the EA and supporting documentation discuss potential environmental issues and impacts sufficiently for us to authorize the expenditure of federal funds in support of the project. Based on the effects analysis in the EA and supporting documentation, OSMRE finds that AMRP's proposed reclamation activities will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. We therefore conclude that a detailed Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.

Information reviewed to support this Finding includes:

- An EA prepared by the BLM Richfield Field Office, dated October, 2018.
- Legal eligibility for project funding by OSMRE under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, as determined by the Utah Office of the Attorney General.
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between OSMRE, BLM, AMRP, and the Utah State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding the resolution of adverse effects to National Register of Historic Places-eligible (NRHP) site 42WN3147 (Criterion A).
- A map of the project area.
- Consultation letters between the Utah AMRP and SHPO dated October 2, 2018 and October 9, 2018.
- Problem Area Description UT-245 (Factory Butte) in OSMRE's electronic Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (eAMLIS).
- A summary of public and tribal outreach activities conducted in support of this project.

OSMRE's specific reasons for making this Finding are as follows:

- The project will enhance public health and wellbeing by safeguarding one hazardous abandoned coal mine adit and two related subsidence features by way of earthen backfill.
- Adverse effects to site 42WN3147 are mitigated through the Treatment Plan outlined in the MOA. The Treatment Plan includes the design and installation of interpretive signage detailing the important role mining at Factory Butte played in the development of communities in Wayne County.
- No concerns were raised in response to public and tribal outreach efforts for this project.
- There are no prime farmlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers, wetlands, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Wilderness Areas, or Wilderness Study Areas within or directly adjacent to the project area. The project does occur within the Factory Butte Special Recreation Management Area. However, one of the Richfield Field Office's Resource Management Plan objectives is to "mitigate or eliminate all hazardous or potentially hazardous sites and situations, including. . . abandoned mine sites" which aligns with the intent of this project.
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect on the local hydrologic regime.
- The project involves no highly controversial, uncertain, unique, potentially significant, or unknown environmental effects. The project is not directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
- No threatened, endangered, or candidate animal species occur within the project area. No migratory

birds occur within the project area.

- Endangered Wright fishhook cacti occur within 400 meters of the project site, but a route which avoids these plants has been mapped and flagged to eliminate potential adverse impacts. A botanist will also be present to monitor the work.
- There are no anticipated impacts to paleontological resources. If a discovery is made, the work will be halted until a qualified BLM representative evaluates the find.
- Existing roads and other clearings will be utilized to the extent possible to minimize new surface disturbances. Total disturbance is estimated at less than one acre.
- Vehicles will be power washed prior to mobilization to reduce the spread of invasive weeds. Any revegetation will be accomplished with a native, certified weed-free seed mix specified by the BLM.
- Air quality impacts, including equipment emissions and fugitive dust, will be minor, temporary, and localized.

TCM

Tom Medlin
Environmental Protection Specialist
Denver Field Branch

11/14/2018

Date

Howard E. Strand

Howard E. Strand
Manager
Denver Field Branch

11/14/2018

Date