

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.; SMCRA), the Denver Field Division of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) gives notice of the availability of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) addressing an environmental assessment (EA) for an abandoned mine land reclamation project in Moffat County, Colorado.

This action covers the Wise Hill Mine Fire –Phase II Abatement Project, which will abate a hazardous underground coal seam fire near the city of Craig, CO. The mine fire exists in an abandoned coal mine, previously known as the Silengo Mine, operated from 1940 to 1971. Historic records suggest that the mine fire may have been started from itinerant person(s) in 1945, as referenced by Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. Alternatively, the mine fire may have started through spontaneous combustion. The reclamation will use a combination of flowable fill, expandable foam, and excavation and quenching to extinguish or reduce the mine fire. Additionally, all surface disturbances attributable to the project area will be backfilled, re-contoured and revegetated. OSMRE is providing funding to the Colorado Inactive Mine Reclamation Program to complete this reclamation.

Complete copies of the Environmental Assessment and FONSI are available at the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Western Region, Denver Field Division, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, Colorado, 80202-3050. They also are available at the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety, Inactive Mine Reclamation Program, 1313 Sherman Street, #215, Denver, Colorado, 80203.