

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

This mining plan approval document is issued by the United States of America to:

Signal Peak Energy, LLC.
100 Portal Drive
Roundup, MT 59072

for a mining plan modification for Federal lease MTM-97988 at the Bull Mountains Mine No.1. This mining plan approval supersedes the mining plan modification originally approved on February 24, 2015, and supplements all previous mining plan approvals for the Bull Mountains Mine No.1. Signal Peak Energy, LLC. is hereinafter referred to as the operator. The approval is subject to the following conditions.

1. Statutes and Regulations. This mining plan approval is issued pursuant to Federal Coal Lease MTM-97988; the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*); and in the case of acquired lands, the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947, as amended (30 U.S.C. 351 *et seq.*) This mining plan approval is subject to all applicable laws and regulations of the Secretary of the Interior which are now or hereafter in force; and all such laws and regulations are made part hereof. The operator shall comply with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution and Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*), the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*), and other applicable Federal laws.
2. This document approves the mining plan modification for Federal lease MTM-97988 at the Bull Mountains Mine No.1 and authorizes coal development or mining operations on the Federal leases within the area of mining approval. This authorization expands the approved mining plan area into the following Federal coal lands:

Federal Lease MTM-97988

TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 27 EAST, PMM
SECTION 4 - LOT 1, S1/2, SE1/4 NW1/4, S1/2 NE1/4
SECTION 8 - S1/2, S1/2 NW1/4, NE1/4 NW1/4, NE1/4
SECTION 10 - S1/2, NW1/4, S1/2 NE1/4, NW1/4 NE1/4
SECTION 14 - S1/2, NW1/4, SW1/4 NE1/4
SECTION 22 - S1/2, NW1/4

WHICH IS ALSO LOCATED WITHIN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PERIMETER:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTHEASTERN PERMIT BOUNDARY OF BULL MOUNTAINS MINE NO. 1, AMENDMENT 02, (MINING PERMIT C1993017) WHICH IS 1313.41' SOUTHEASTERLY OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID PERMIT BOUNDARY; THENCE N56°13'54"E A DISTANCE OF 11,134.04'; THENCE S33°46'06"E A DISTANCE OF 19,698.00'; THENCE S56°13'54"W A DISTANCE OF 11,134.04' TO A POINT ON SAID NORTHEASTERN PERMIT BOUNDARY; THENCE N33°46'06"W, ALONG SAID NORTHEASTERN PERMIT BOUNDARY, A DISTANCE OF 19,698.00' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

These lands encompass approximately 1,725 federal coal acres and are shown on the map appended hereto as Attachment A.

3. The operator shall conduct coal development and mining operations only as described in the complete permit application package, and approved by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Coal Program, except as otherwise directed in the conditions of this mining plan approval.
4. The operator shall comply with the terms and conditions of the lease, this mining plan approval, and the requirements of Montana Permit No. C1993017 issued under the Montana State program, approved pursuant to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 *et seq.*).
5. This mining plan approval shall be binding on any person conducting coal development or mining operations under the approved mining plan and shall remain in effect until superseded, canceled, or withdrawn.
6. If, during mining operations, unidentified prehistoric resources are discovered, the operator shall ensure that the resources are not disturbed and shall notify the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Coal Program and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE). The operator shall take such actions as are required by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Coal Program in coordination with OSMRE.
7. The operator shall ensure that unevaluated sites 24ML667, 24ML940, 24ML942 and 24ML949 are not affected by surface disturbance activities.

8. The Secretary retains jurisdiction to modify or cancel this approval, as required, on the basis of further consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*



Joseph R. Balash
Assistant Secretary,
Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior



Date

Attachment