



Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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January 26, 2012

John Skriner  
Coal Mountain Mining, LP  
3203 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave N  
Billings, MT 59101

Permit ID: X2009330  
Revision Type: Amendment  
Permitting Action: Completeness and Preliminary Acceptability Determination  
Subject: Amendment Application 03

Dear John:

The Department has completed its review of Coal Mountain Mining, LP's (CMM) Amendment Application 03 to prospecting permit #X2009330.

CMM submitted Amendment Application 03 for prospecting permit #X2009330 on January 10, 2012. The prospecting permit amendment would incorporate the CMM development area, near Red Lodge, Carbon County, Montana. On January 18, 2012, the Department issued a first round completeness deficiency letter. CMM's response to the deficiency was received on January 20, 2012.

CMM's amendment application to prospecting permit #X2009330 and subsequent deficiency responses addressed all of the rules pertaining to submittal of a prospecting application. Therefore, the Department finds that CMM's application for an amendment to prospecting permit X2009330 is administratively complete and preliminarily acceptable.

The total bond required for the prospecting activities associated with prospecting permit X2009330 including Amendment 3 is \$30,498. The Department records currently indicate that CMM has submitted \$46,312 in bond; therefore, the amount of bond is adequate at this time.

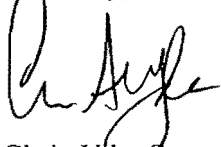
Please proceed with publishing the Public Notice in a paper of general circulation in the locality of the proposed activity [MCA 82-4-226 (8)(e)]. The notice must be published once. A 10-day

comment period will follow the date of publication. During the 10-day comment period, the Department will complete its technical review and notify you of any additional deficiencies.

The Department will prepare an Environmental Assessment prior to issuing a final decision on the permit amendment application.

If you have any questions regarding the completeness determination or the Department's technical review of the amendment application, please contact Bob Smith.

Sincerely,



Chris Yde, Supervisor  
Coal and Uranium Program  
Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau  
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Cc: Jeff Fleischman, Office of Surface Mining  
Gene Hay, Office of Surface Mining

FC: Prospecting X2009330 (Permit Application Amendment 3)