

Public Notice

Otter Creek Coal, LLC is applying for bond release from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality on exploration drilling operations conducted under Prospecting Permit No. X2011334 in Powder River County, Montana.

The following information is provided per Administrative Rules of Montana 17.24.1017(3):

Name of permittee: Otter Creek Coal, LLC
Prospecting Permit No.: X2011334
Date issued: July 15, 2011
Date last renewed: July 15, 2015
Date expired: July 15, 2016

Township, range and section of the area for which bond release is requested:
Principle Meridian, Montana
T. 4 S., R. 45 E., Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 25, 26

Extent of disturbance:

Drill holes – 111 holes were drilled at 55 drill sites. Small pits were excavated as mud pits or for water containment at 5 of these sites.

Road maintenance – A stretch of two-track road totaling 600 sq. feet (0.014 acres) was rutted during drilling operations and subsequently regraded.

Bond held / bond release requested:

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality holds a \$21,000 surety bond for the reclamation of the disturbance associated with these holes. Bond release of the entire \$21,000 amount is being sought.

Completion of reclamation:

Surface and subsurface reclamation of all drill holes and drill sites was completed as approved.

The application is available for inspection at the Department of Environmental Quality offices in Helena (1218 East 6th Avenue), and Billings (1371 Rimtop Drive, Building IP-9, Airport Industrial Park). Electronic copies of the application may be requested by visiting the website <http://deq.mt.gov/Public/ea/coal> or by emailing DEQCoal@mt.gov.

Written comments, objections and/or requests for informal conference on this application may be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, Coal Section, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or electronically at <http://svc.mt.gov/deq/publiccomment/> within 30 days of the final publication of this notice.