



January 3, 2019

Sent via ePermit system

Gabe Johnson
Spring Creek Coal LLC
Spring Creek Mine
PO Box 67
Decker, MT 59025

Permit ID: C1979012
Revision Type: Amendment
Permitting Action: Deficiency
Subject: APPAM5; Arrowhead Amendment-Round 6 Acceptability Deficiency

Dear Gabe:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed its acceptability review regarding Spring Creek Coal LLC's application for Amendment APPAM5. The following deficiency must be adequately addressed before DEQ can determine the application acceptable:

ARM 17.24.304(1)(b): Please provide an ethnographic study for the proposed expansion area. An ethnographic study provides an examination of the study area from an "insiders" point of view. Primarily, that of interested Native American Tribes. This may include land use, sacred areas, plant use, animal use, and ancestral use of an area.

Upon receipt of satisfactory responses to this deficiency, DEQ will determine the application to be acceptable.

Please feel free to contact Robert D. Smith at 406-444-7444 with questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Yde".

Chris Yde, Supervisor
Coal Section
Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau
Phone: 406-444-4967
Fax: 406-444-4988
Email: CYde@mt.gov

Cc: Jeff Fleischman, Office of Surface Mining
Erica Trent, Office of Surface Mining

FC: 620.403 (AM5)