



April 3, 2020

Sent via electronic mail

Dicki Peterson
Western Energy Company
Rosebud Coal Mine Area A, B, C, D and F
P.O. Box 99
Colstrip, MT 59323-0099

Permit ID: C1986003A, C1984003B, C1985003C, C1986003D, and C2011003F
Revision Type: N/A
Permitting Action: N/A
Subject: Wildlife Survey Variance

Dear Dicki:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has received Western Energy Company's (WECO) request for a variance for wildlife surveys in April regarding their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the large dataset collected at the mine the missed survey should not significantly impact the dataset. Areas that were intended to be surveyed during this time should be surveyed once access restrictions are removed. Should any Threatened/Endangered species or Species of Concern be observed during mining operations, WECO should promptly contact DEQ and USFWS.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew R Dorrington".

Matthew Dorrington, Section Supervisor
Coal Section
Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau
Phone: (406) 444-4967
Fax: 406-444-4988
Email: Matthew.Dorrington@mt.gov

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

Gilbert, Sharona

From: Gilbert, Sharona
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Peterson, Dicki
Cc: jfleischman@osmre.gov; Trent, Erica; Shaeffer, Elizabeth (eshaeffer@osmre.gov); Bartlett, Franklin P (fbartlett@osmre.gov); Giovetti, Debbie (dgiovetti@osmre.gov); 'mcalle@osmre.gov'; DEQ AEMD Coal
Subject: C1986003A, C1984003B, C1985003C, C1986003D, and C2011003F Wildlife Variance
Attachments: WECO_Wildlifevarianceletter.pdf

Please see attached correspondence. Have a great day!

Sharona Gilbert

Program Support Specialist
Coal Section
Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau
Ph: 444-4966
Fax: 444-4988

*The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men,
Gang aft agley ~Robert Burns*