



**Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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August 7, 2009

Ms. Dicki Gregg
Permit Coordinator
Western Energy Company
P.O. Box 99
Colstrip, MT 59323

RE: Application #00184; Determination of Administrative Completeness

Dear Gabe:

The Department has completed its review of amendment application #00184, submitted June 12, 2009. The Department has determined the application to be administratively complete.

Pursuant to 82-4-231(5), MCA, the Department has also determined that an environmental impact statement on the amendment is not required. The Department does not believe that significant additional impacts (additional to those generated by the existing mine) to the quality of the human environment will occur as a result of the proposed activity. Western Energy may proceed with publishing its public notice as per 17.24.401(3). Prior to publishing the notice, please revise it as per my email of August 6, 2009.

The Department will proceed with its technical review of the application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Department.

Sincerely,

Chris A. Yde, Supervisor
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FC: 620.112 (Application 00184)