

Signal Peak Energy, LLC.

100 Portal Drive - Roundup MT 59072
Tel. 406-323-4500

November 7, 2023

Ms. Emily Lodman
Permit Coordinator/Sr. Hydrologist
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

Permit ID: C1993017
Revision Type: Amendment
Permitting Action: Application
Subject: **Amendment No. 6; 1 East Longwall Panel & Additional CM Mining**

Dear Ms. Lodman,

Signal Peak Energy, LLC (SPE) is submitting an amendment application requesting approval to marginally extend the mineplan.

The proposed amendment is located in Musselshell County and Yellowstone County Montana, and has the following legal description:

	Township 6 North, Range 27 East		
Section 13	S $\frac{1}{2}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$		442
Section 23	S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$		114
Section 24	NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$		203
Section 26	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$		40
	Township 6 North, Range 28 East		
Section 18	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$		238
	TOTAL AMENDMENT NO. 6 AREA ACREAGE:		1,037

APPLICATION FORM FOR STRIP OR UNDERGROUND MINING PERMIT_AMEND 6_20231107.pdf has been uploaded to the E-Permit

Includes the following attachments within to supplement the application form:

- TABLE App-1_AMEND 6_20231107
- TABLE App-2_AMEND 6_20231107
- TABLE App-3_AMEND 6_20231107

General Summary

Bull Mountains Mine No. 1 is proposing to add 1 East Longwall Panel and additional CM mining. This amendment will add approximately 488 acres to the current mine plan footprint of 11,386 acres for a total of 11,874 acres; an increase of 4.3%. This amendment will add 1,037 acres to the existing 15,487 acre permit area for a total of 16,524 acres; an increase of 6.7%. The additional mine plan area and permit area proposed in this amendment are all private surface and private mineral. Please see Map 303-1_Surface & Mineral Ownership for the revised Permit Area and Map 308-1A 5 Year Mine Plan for revised mine plan details.

The additional saleable coal tons that will be added if this amendment is approved are:

- 5.25 Million LW Tons
- 2.04 Million CM Tons
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- 7.29 Million Total Tons

Note: Approximately the western third of Longwall Panel 1 East is part of the currently approved mine plan footprint (currently approved as the southern portions of Longwall Panels 12,13,14,and 15). i.e. the western third of Longwall Panel 1 East is not “ additional” tons and appropriately not included in the above totals.

Reclamation Plan

Appendix 313-3

More detail has been added at the end of this appendix to better clarify how ARM 17.24.634(1)(g) is and will be addressed.

Permit area roads, small boreholes and pads, and subsidence already have reclamation plans permitted.

The bond calculation was recently updated (RN5 2023) and includes substantial allocations for permit area reclamation activities. Please see Appendix 313-1_Reclamation Costs for details.

Hydrology

Addendum 314-5-2_Evaluation of Hydrologic Effects of Amendment 6

This hydrologic assessment of surface and groundwater effects of this amendment has been completed by Water and Environmental Technologies (WET). This new addendum is part of the PHC (Appendix 314-5); attached within the pdf.

APPENDIX 304(5)-10 AM6 Hydro Baseline_20231107

This new appendix is located in the 304 Baseline Hydrology Section of the E-Permit. It includes the Baseline Data that was used for the AM6 PHC update. The work file (xlsx) data is included as an attachment within the pdf.

Addendum_5B_Stream-Riparian-Wetland Inventory_AM6_20231107

This revised appendix is located in the 304 Baseline Hydrology Section of the E-Permit. It now includes the AM6 area text, tables, photos, map and figures. The required surveys and preparation of this addendum were completed by Catena with input and review from WET.

Additionally, a new technical memorandum by David Stagliano (MBS) on biologic communities is included in the Addendum (Attachment 5B-7).

Cultural Resources

Class III study has been completed overlying all of proposed permit area and proposed mineplan area. Please see:

- Map 304(2)-1_Cultural Resources
- Class III Cultural Inventory of SPE 2021_22 Study Areas 1B_1C_2A_GCM_20230125

OTHER PERMIT MATERIALS UPDATED (IN THE E-PERMIT)

Maps - DWG's and PDF's.

Map 303-1_Surface & Mineral Ownership
Map 304(5)-1_Monitoring Well Locations
Map 304(5)-2_Surface Water Resources
Map 304(5)-3_Private Well Inventory
Map 304(6)-1_Drill Hole Locations & Cross Section Index
Map 304(6)-3_Mammoth Coal Structure
Map 304(6)-4_Geology & Lithologic Column
Map 304(6)-5_Springs & Projected Coal Outcrops
Map 304(6)-6_Alluvial Aquifer Water Table
Map 304(6)-7_Sandstone - Rock Mesa Potentiometric Surface
Map 304(6)-8_Mammoth Coal Potentiometric Surface
Map 304(6)-10_Upper Underburden Potentiometric Surface
Map 304(6)-11_Springs - Major Ion Concentrations
Map 304(6)-12_Alluvium - Major Ion Concentrations
Map 304(6)-13_Overburden - Major Ion Concentrations
Map 304(6)-14_Mammoth Coal - Major Ion Concentrations
Map 304(6)-15_Underburden - Major Ion Concentrations
Map 304(6)-16_Lineament & Slope Inventory
Map 304(6)-17_Stream Profiles & Cross Section Index
Map 304(9)-1_Premine Vegetation
Map 304(9)-15_LOM Hydrophytic Survey Locations
Map 304(10)-1_Wildlife Survey Locations
Map 304(10)-2_Wildlife Study Area Habitats
Map 304(10)-3_Mule Deer Aerial Observations
Map 304(10)-4_Elk Aerial Observations
Map 304(10)-5_Pronghorn Aerial Observations
Map 304(10)-6_Raptor Nest Sites & Nesting Areas
Map 304(10)-7_Wildlife Monitoring Routes
Map 304(11)-1_Mine Plan Area Soils
Map 304(12)-1_Mine Plan Area Land Use
Map 304(12)-2_Ranch Units
Map 308-1 LOM Mine Plan
Map 308-1A 5 Year Mine Plan
Map 313-1_Bonding Levels
Map 321-2A_Permit Area Road Classifications

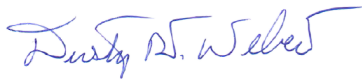
Map 322-1_Mammoth Coal Isopach
Map 322-2_Overburden Isopach
Map 322-4_Coal Conservation
Map 901-F(A)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(B)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(C)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(D)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(E)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(F)_Subsidence
Map 901-F(G)_Subsidence
Map Affidavit_AM6
Replaced AM4 Permit Boundary dwg with AM6 Permit Boundary dwg

Other Updates in the E-Permit

Admin → Application Form
Admin → Location → Legal Description of Access
Admin → Location → Additional Information → Table 303-1
Admin → Surface & Mineral Ownership
Admin → Mine Site Information → Proposed Mineral/Surface Acreage
Admin → Compliance with 82-4-251 MCA → Exhibit 303-1
Admin → Violations & Cessations → Table 303-5
Admin → Insurance → Updated Certificate of Liability Insurance
Admin → Life of Mine / Estimated Mining Timetable → Table 303--6
Admin → Proof of Publication → Newspaper Notice – AM6
Baseline → Baseline → Wildlife Survey → IPaC_PermitIncludingAM6_20231106
Baseline → Baseline → Wildlife Survey → 5366 - AM6 UNDERGROUND MINEPLAN - SAGE GROUSE_20231106

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns related to this application.

Sincerely,



Dusty R. Weber
Permitting Manager
Office: 406-375-5254
E-mail: dweber@signalpeakenergy.com

cc: Parker Phipps, Curtis Focht, Sean Ellington, Judd Stark, Michael Nicklin

Attachments: (listed & described above and included in the E-Permit)