



August 17, 2026

Sent via ePermit system

Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC
Spring Creek Mine
P.O. Box 67
Decker, MT 59025

Permit ID: C1979012
Revision Type: Amendment
Permitting Action: Approval
Subject: Approval of Amendment AM6

Dear Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed its review of Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC's application for Amendment AM6 and approves the amendment with permit conditions. These permit conditions are listed in the Written Findings and attached to the permit document. Enclosed for your records is a copy of the updated SMP C1979012, which will expire on April 11, 2029.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emily Lodman".

Emily Lodman, Supervisor
Coal Section
Mining Bureau
Phone: 406-444-2873
Email: Elodman@mt.gov

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

SURFACE/UNDERGROUND MINING PERMIT

STATE OF MONTANA
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 200901
Helena, Montana 59620-0901
Phone (406) 444-4970

SURFACE MINING PERMIT NO. C1979012
Pursuant to Title 82, Chapter 4, Part 2, MCA

Pursuant to Application for Coal Mine Permit Amendment No. AM6 received by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on May 14, 2025, Coal Mine Permit No. C1979012 issued to Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC on April 11, 1979 is hereby amended as follows:

Legal Description of Amendment Area:	Change in Permitted Acres:	Amount of Change in Bond:
T8S, R39E, Sections 27 and 35	+520	N/A
T9S, R39E, Sections 1 and 2		

THIS PERMIT, WHEN EXECUTED BY THE CHIEF, MINING BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, SHALL AUTHORIZE THE OPERATOR TO COMMENCE COAL MINING ACTIVITIES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN AND AS SHOWN ON MAPS, PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE OPERATOR.

Name and Address of Operator:	Mineral to be mined:	County:
Navajo Transitional Energy Company, LLC P.O. Box 67 Decker, MT 59025-0000	Coal	Big Horn

Total Required Surety: \$ 181,816,800.00	Total Permitted Acreage: 14,037, more or less
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Legal Description:

The SCM permit area is located in all or portions of the following subdivisions.
In Big Horn County, Montana:

Township 8 South, Range 39 East, M.P.M.

Section 13 - W $\frac{1}{2}$; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$; Portion of E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 14 - All

Section 15 - All

Section 21 - Portion of SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 22 - ALL, except for portions of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 23 - All

Section 24 - W $\frac{1}{2}$; SE $\frac{1}{4}$; Portion of NE $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 25 - All

Section 26 - ALL, except the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 27 - ALL

Section 34 - W $\frac{1}{2}$

Section 35 - E $\frac{1}{2}$; N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 36 - All

Township 8 South, Range 40 East, M.P.M

Section 18 - Portion of S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 19 - SW $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$; S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$; S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 20 - Portion of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 27 - Portion of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 28 - Portion of S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$

Section 29 - SE $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$; Portion of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 30 - All
 Section 31 - All
 Section 32 - Portion of the N½NW¼, NE¼
 Section 34 - Portion of the E½SW¼, W½SE¼, E½NW¼, NE¼
 Section 35 - Portion of the NW¼

Township 9 South, Range 40 East, M.P.M
 Section 3 - Portion of SE¼, W½NE¼, NE¼NE¼NW¼
 Section 6 - All
 Section 7 - Portion of NW¼NW¼
 Section 10 - Portion of E½NE¼, E½SE¼, SW¼SE¼
 Section 11 - W½NW¼
 Section 15 - N½NE¼

Township 9 South, Range 39 East, M.P.M.
 Section 1 - Portion of S½S½; N½NW¼, N½NE¼, SE¼NE¼
 Section 2 - NE¼NE¼
 Section 3 - W½
 Section 4 - ALL, except the NW¼NE¼
 Section 9 - N½; N½S½; SE¼SE¼
 Section 10 - W½
 Section 12 - Portion of N½
 Section 15 - N½NW¼
 Section 16 - Portion of NE¼, SE¼NW¼, E½SW¼, NW¼SE¼
 Section 21 - E½W½
 Section 28 - NE¼NW¼, S½NW¼, N½SW¼, SW¼SW¼
 Section 29 - SE¼NE¼, E½SE¼
 Section 32 - All
 Section 33 - All

Township 10 South, Range 38 East, M.P.M
 Section 1 - Lots 5, 9 (f/k/a NW¼NE¼), 11, SW¼NE¼, E½NE¼

Acreage Breakdown	Permit Acreage Mineral	Permit Acreage Surface
Federal:	12,392	943
Tribal:	0	0
State:	1,313	867
Private:	332	12,227
County:	0	0
Total:	14,037	14,037

THIS PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE PERMITTEE TO CONDUCT MINING ACTIVITIES AS SPECIFIED IN:

1. The mining and reclamation permit numbered C1979012 covering this mine or mine complex approved by the Commissioner, Department of State Lands, or Director, Department of Environmental Quality on April 11, 1979, and any approved amendments, revisions, and renewals.
2. The application for amendment of Surface/Underground Coal Mine Permit numbered C1979012, received by DEQ on May 14, 2025, and revised through June 15, 2026.

Stipulations: See Attachment A

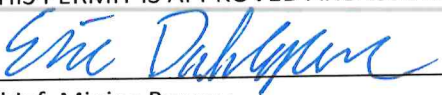
THIS PERMIT IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO AND SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 82, CHAPTER 4, PART 2, MCA, AND RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 82, CHAPTER 4, PART 2, MCA.

THIS PERMIT IS APPROVED AND ISSUED BY:

Effective Date: August 17, 2026

Expiration Date: April 11, 2029

This permit is valid for 5 years and is subject to renewal, suspension or revocation as deemed necessary by DEQ.



Chief, Mining Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality

Date: August 17, 2026

ATTACHMENT A: STIPULATIONS FOR SPRING CREEK COAL MINE

Revision	Stipulation	Due Date (if applicable)
AM5	SCM committed to a compensatory mitigation obligation of \$1,707,353.05 to be deposited in the Montana Sage Grouse Stewardship Fund (see MCA 76-22-111(1)(a)(ii)). Funds would be deposited before construction begins. See Appendix B of Final EIS.	N/A
AM6	ARM 17.24.312(1)(d)(ii) In accordance with the June 12, 2026, Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Consultation Letter and Mitigation Plan, disturbance is prohibited in the No Surface Occupancy area. This area may be disturbed only upon written agreement from the Montana Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Program. Additionally, NTEC must pay \$57,060.18 to the State of Montana Sage Grouse Stewardship Account prior to any disturbance approved with amendment AM6.	N/A
AM6	ARM 17.24.304(1)(b); ARM 17.24.518(1): All Eligible or Undetermined sites proposed to be disturbed by AM6 must be avoided with at least a 100-foot buffer until the Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurs with site eligibility and any sites found to be Eligible are properly mitigated.	N/A