



# United States Department of the Interior



OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
Western Region  
1999 Broadway St., Suite 3320  
Denver, CO 80202-3050

September 18, 2017

RE: Notice of Public Review and Comment Period for the Environmental Assessment for the John Henry No. 1 Mine WA-0007D Revision Application and Permit Renewal

Dear Interested Party,

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Western Region Office, is releasing the Environmental Assessment (EA) and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the John Henry Mine No.1 Permit Number WA-0007D. Interested parties will have until October 17, 2017 to submit comments. The EA and unsigned FONSI are available for review as of September 18, 2017. All comments must be received or postmarked by October 17, 2017, to be considered. For your convenience, the EA and the unsigned FONSI can be accessed on the OSMRE Western Region website at: <http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/johnHenryMine.shtm>.

Pacific Coast Coal Company (PCCC) submitted a permit revision application to revise Federal permit WA-0007D on April 18, 2011 to the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE). This permit revision would allow the continuation of surface coal mining operations under authority of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA), Public Law 95-87.

PCCC has not engaged in substantive coal mining operations since 1999. Environmental maintenance activities and monitoring have been ongoing since that date. PCCC's permit renewal applications (2011 and 2016) have been under administrative delay pending the completion of an Environmental Assessment (EA) of PCCC's proposed permit revision.

OSMRE has prepared an environmental assessment (EA), to analyze environmental impacts of approving a Revision Application for future surface mining operations at the John Henry No. 1 Mine Permit WA-0007D. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the EA discloses the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts. Resources analyzed in the EA include topography and geology, air quality and climate, social and economic resources, water resources, soils, biological resources, land use, recreation, and public health and safety.

The Proposed Action Alternative would be continuation of mining at the John Henry No. 1 Mine and renewal of the John Henry No. 1 Mine surface coal mining permit. Active mining operations would produce an estimated 84,000 short tons of saleable coal per year. Reclamation activities would follow until the mine site was fully reclaimed and final bond release was authorized by OSMRE.

Printed versions of the EA and unsigned FONSI are also available for review at the following locations along with copies of the significant permit revision:

Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation  
Western Region Office  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320  
Denver, CO 80202



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## OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Western Region  
1999 Broadway St., Suite 3320  
Denver, CO 80202-3050

Between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday (Closed Saturday and Sunday)

Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation  
Olympia Field Office  
711 Capitol Way, Suite 703,  
Olympia, Washington 98501

Between the hours of 7:00 AM and 2:00 PM Monday through Friday (Closed Saturday and Sunday)

City of Black Diamond Office  
24301 Roberts Drive  
Black Diamond, WA 98010

Between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Friday (Closed Saturday and Sunday)

You are invited to direct your comments on the EA and unsigned OSMRE FONSI to: ATTN: OSMRE, John Henry EA, OSMRE WR, C/O: Gretchen Pinkham, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, CO 80202-3050. Comments may also be emailed to: [osm-nepa-wa@osmre.gov](mailto:osm-nepa-wa@osmre.gov), please ensure the subject line reads: ATTN: OSMRE, John Henry EA.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – will be publicly available. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be available for public review to the extent consistent with applicable law.

Additional information regarding the Environmental Assessment for the John Henry No. 1 Mine may be obtained through the OSMRE information line at 1-866-847-7362.

Sincerely,

Mychal Yellowman  
Manager, Indian Programs Branch  
OSMRE – Western Region