PROPOSED DECISION TO APPROVE COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION PLAN WITH STIPULATIONS, BLACK BUTTE FEDERAL COAL LEASE NO. W-6266

ACTION: Proposed Decision to Approve Coal Mining and Reclamation Plan With Stipulations -- Black Butte Mine, Federal Coal Lease No. W-6266.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 211.5 of Title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Office of Surface Mining has performed a technical review of a mining and reclamation plan submitted by Black Butte Coal Co. (P.O. Box 98, Point of the Rocks, Wyo. 82942) to disturb up to 13,842 acres of a total permit area of 38,616 acres comprised of federally owned and privately owned coal. The mine is located about 25 miles east of Rock Springs, Wyo. and south of Point of the Rocks, Wyo. (T)9N, R100W, sections 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36; T19N, R101W, sections 24, 25, 36, T18N, R100W, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16 (in part), 17, 19, 20 (in part), 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33; T18N R101W, sections 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35. It is proposed to mine this, and perhaps adjacent, coal over a period of about at least 26 years.

The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Regional Director, Region V, Office of Surface Mining, has recommended, based on staff and other reviews; including those of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Geological Survey; approval of the mining and reclamation plan with stipulations. Any persons having an interest which is or may be adversely affected may, in writing, request a public meeting to discuss their views regarding this mining and reclamation plan.

This particular mine was the subject of a site-specific analysis of impacts and alternatives in an Environmental Impact Statement, titled “Development of Coal Resources in Southwestern Wyoming”. The Final Environmental Statement was submitted on September 17, 1978.

DATES: All requests for public meeting must be made on or before the date of publication of this notice. No decision on the mine plan will be made by the Assistant Secretary, Energy and Minerals, prior to the expiration of the 20-day period.

ADDRESSES: The stipulations are available for review in the Region V Office of Surface Mining upon request. Requests for a public meeting must include the name and address of the requestor and must be submitted to the Regional Director, Region V, Office of Surface Mining, Room 217, 1823 Stout Street, Denver, Colo. 80202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
John Hardaway, Office of Surface Mining, Region V, 1823 Stout Street, Denver, Colo. 80202.

PAUL L. REEVES,
Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

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