

News Release

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation & Enforcement
A Bureau of the U. S. Department of the Interior



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 25, 2018

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OSMRE Announces Mining Plan Modification Approval Following Environmental Assessment of Utah's Sufco Mine

*Action authorizes the mining of approximately
56 million tons and adds nine years to the life of the mine.*

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement (OSMRE) today announced approval by the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, of a mining plan modification to add approximately 6,175 acres of Federal coal to the approved mining plan area of the Sufco Mine, located in Sevier and Sanpete Counties, Utah.

The modification to the mining plan will add approximately nine years to the life of the mine, and will authorize the mining of approximately 56 million tons of Federal coal. The Sufco Mine facility is located about 16 miles from Emery, Utah, and currently employs 398 people. The mine is projected to produce an average of 5.5 to 6.3 million tons per year.

The [Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement \(OSMRE\)](#) prepared the *Greens Hollow Tract Mining Plan Modification Supplemental Environmental Assessment* in January 2018. Details about the project are available at: <https://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/greensHollowTract.shtm>.

The Sufco Mine permit provides for a post-mine land use of timber, grazing land, and wildlife habitat which will continue with this modification. The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining holds a reclamation performance bond in the amount of \$4,680,000 on the site. Reclamation performance bonds are held to ensure that post-mining reclamation of the site is carried out if a company cannot carry out its legally required reclamation obligations.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) carries out the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 in cooperation with states and tribes. OSMRE's objectives are to ensure that coal mining activities are conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, to ensure that the land is restored to beneficial use after mining, and to mitigate the effects of past mining by aggressively pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mines.

