

News Release

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 30, 2019

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OSMRE Announces Availability of the San Juan Mine Deep Lease Extension Record of Decision

*Preferred Alternative would authorize the mining of approximately
53 million tons and add 10-14 years to the life of the mine.*

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Interior’s [Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement \(OSMRE\)](#) released the San Juan Mine, Deep Lease Extension Mining Plan Modification Record of Decision (ROD) today. The ROD was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 *et seq.*).

The modification to the mining plan will add approximately 4,465 acres to the approved mining plan area for the underground mine facility, located about 16 miles west of Farmington, New Mexico, in San Juan County, and will allow mining of approximately 53 million tons of Federal coal. The mine is projected to produce an annual average rate of 3 million tons of coal per year over an approximate 10 to 14 year period, through the year 2033. The mine and San Juan Generating Station, the primary user of the coal until 2022, currently employ 371 people. The mine and generating station indirectly support approximately 526 jobs in the Four Corners Region.

The Notice of Availability will be published in the *Federal Register* on May 1, 2019. The San Juan Mine Deep Lease Extension ROD is available for download at: [San Juan Mine Deep Lease Extension ROD](#).

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.

