

News Release

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OSMRE Announces the Availability of the Record of Decision for the Rosebud Mine Area F Expansion Final EIS

Proposed action will add approximately 68.5 million tons of recoverable coal and eight years to the life of the mine, and extend jobs for more than 400 people.

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Interior’s [Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement \(OSMRE\)](#) today announced the release of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Rosebud Mine, Area F Expansion Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The EIS was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The proposed expansion would add approximately 6,746 permit acres and approximately 68.5 million tons of recoverable federal and private coal to the approved mining plan area of the Rosebud Mine in Colstrip, MT. If approved, the project will add approximately eight years to the life of the mine, through the year 2038. The permit area is located about 12 miles from Colstrip and the mine currently employs 421 people. The mine is projected to produce an average of 8-10 million tons per year.

The Notice of Availability will be published in the *Federal Register* on June 28, 2019. The Rosebud Mine Area F Expansion Final EIS ROD is available for download at <https://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/initiatives/westernEnergy.shtm>.

OSMRE will provide a mining plan approval recommendation for leased federal coal to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management (ASLM). The ASLM will decide whether the plan to mine federal coal is approved, disapproved, or approved with conditions, as required by the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

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.

