

**17.24.303****Legal, Financial, Compliance, and Related Information**

(1)(b)

Location of Mine Site

Spring Creek Mine (SCM), is located near Decker in Big Horn County, Montana, approximately 32 miles north of Sheridan, Wyoming.

Plate 1 depicts the Spring Creek Mine permit boundary and lease boundaries.

Figure 1 is a general location map showing the permit area in proximity to nearby features.

Access to the Mine

The mine site is situated in the southeastern portion of the State of Montana and is accessible from Montana Highway FAS 314 over a private, permitted road (Plate 17). Highway FAS 314 becomes Wyoming State Highway 338 at the state line. Accordingly, the mine is accessible from the south and from the north. The general location map (Figure 1) shows principal access routes.

Historic Permit Boundary Summary

Plate 1A presents the historic progression of major changes to the permit boundary for the Spring Creek Mine. The most recent permit revision also includes several incidental boundary changes. The original permit included 2,748 acres and was bounded on the south by South Fork Spring Creek. The mine expanded the permit boundary in 1990 to include mining through the South Fork Spring Creek. The permit boundary was revised again in 1991 to include the mine access road and rail loop and reduced the permit boundary on the western side to minimize the permit overlap on the adjacent land owners. The next permit revision was in 2002 with the inclusion of the Carbone Amendment and the coalbed methane water supply pipeline. The South Fork Extension permit revision (2005) added lands on the south side of the permit that will be required for borrow to reclaim the final pit. The Pearson Creek Amendment (2008) extends the permit boundary to the south to include additional coal in the permit. Minor permit revision 206 extends support utilities from the railroad corridor to the east of the mine (2014). Minor permit revision 235 (2018) adds a stockpile area on the north side of Pit #4.