



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
Casper Field Office
PO Box 11018
150 East B Street, RM 1018
Casper, WY 82602



FEB 11 2013

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February 5, 2013

Mr. James Deutsch, Director
Reclamation & AML Divisions
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) has reviewed the AML Divisions request for concurrence for the 2013 Sinkhole Maintenance Project, located at several sights throughout North Dakota

This project is a continuation of the 2011 Sinkhole Maintenance Project. Since the scope of work and project location remain unchanged, the authorization to proceed and finding of no significant impact issued for the 2011 Sinkhole Maintenance Project remain valid. We have determined that the documentation previously supplied for 2011 Sinkhole Maintenance Project adequately discusses the environmental issues and impacts associated with the project. Based on the analysis of these documents, I have determined that reclamation of this site would not have significant effects on the quality of the human environment, and therefore conclude that no environmental impact statement (EIS) is necessary.

If the scope of work or project location changes for any reason, please contact this office as further evaluation and authorization may be required. The State of North Dakota Public Service Commission, Abandoned Mine Lands Division should ensure that all applicable laws, clearances, permits, or requirements are met prior to expending funds.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 5-11-20D.3 of the Federal Assistance manual, this office concurs that you are authorized to proceed with this project.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Fleischman, Director
Casper Field Office

