



Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Matt Mead, Governor

Todd Parfitt, Director

May 27, 2014

Mr. John Cash
Lost Creek ISR, LLC
5880 Enterprise Drive, Suite 200
Casper, WY 82609

Re: Review of 2013 Wildlife Monitoring Report, Lost Creek ISR Project, Permit #788

Dear Mr. Cash:

Attached is WDEQ/LQD's review of the 2013 Annual Wildlife Monitoring Report for Permit 788, which was received at the Lander WDEQ/LQD office on March 28, 2014. The review was conducted by LQD's Craig Smith (see attached memorandum). Based upon Mr. Smith's review, there were no major concerns with the Report; however four (4) minor comments did result from the review. Please address the review comments in the 2014 Annual Wildlife Monitoring Report. It is not necessary to address these comments for the already-submitted 2013 Report.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me in the Lander Land Quality Division office at (307) 335-6943. The next Inspection is planned for Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at 10am.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Bautz, P.G.
Natural Resources Analyst
Land Quality Division - Lander

Enclosure Memorandum – Review of 2013 Annual Wildlife Monitoring – Pt. 788 (1 page)

cc: Mark Newman – BLM, P. O. Box 2407, Rawlins, WY 82301(w/encl)
John Saxton – US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (w/encl)
Tanya King - WDEQ-LQD, District II Supervisor → Pt. 788 Annual Report File (w/encl)
Ramona Christensen - Cheyenne LQD Records Specialist → Pt. 788 Annual Report File (w/encl)
Chron (w/encl)

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Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ)/ Land Quality Division (LQD)
Memorandum

File: Lost Creek ISR, LLC – WDEQ/LQD Permit 788

From: Melissa L. Bautz – WDEQ/LQD Natural Resources Analyst

Date: May 27, 2014 *MLB*

Subject: Lost Creek ISR, LLC 2013 Annual Wildlife Report Review – Permit 788

The above referenced Wildlife Monitoring Report for Permit 788 was reviewed by WDEQ/LQD's Craig Smith. Below are Mr. Smith's comments. Overall the report was found to be thorough and well written.

1. Section 2.1.3 Range Conversion: The text states that the conversion that took place was "associated with the permitted mining disturbance area". Please provide an estimate of the number of acres that converted from pronghorn range to disturbed area.
2. Section 2.2.1.3 Analysis of Lek Data: While it is not indicated in the data presented that there is a divergence between the affected area and reference area in terms of 3 year trend lek attendance, is there a preset point or a point suggested in literature that would indicate that the disturbance in the affected area is having an effect on sage-grouse populations? If a divergence is found and the slope analysis also indicates that mining activity is affecting populations are there any measures (additional mitigation, additional avoidance, etc.) in place to address the effect on sage-grouse populations?
3. Section 4.0 Great Basin Spadefoot Toad (p. 27): The text indicates no additional surveys are planned in 2013. Should this state 2014 instead?
4. Figure 2.2C Sage-grouse wind barrels locations: This figure is listed in the table of contents but the actual figure has no title or legend. Please add a title and legend to the figure.

*****END OF MEMORANDUM*****