



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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February 25, 2011

Mr. Richard Southwick
Manager - Permitting & Environmental
South Heart Coal LLC
173 Cottonwood Road
Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Mr. Southwick:

Enclosed are copies of the comments that we received between February 11 and 25 on South Heart Coal LLC's application for Surface Coal Mining Permit No. SHSH-1001 for the proposed South Heart Mine. The people submitting comments also requested a formal hearing on this application. As you know, provisions in the reclamation law provide for an informal conference at this stage of the review process rather than a formal hearing. Also enclosed are copies of letters we have sent to these people informing them of this, and to let them know we consider their formal hearing request as a request for an informal conference.

In addition, enclosed is a copy of the comments that we received on this application in late January from the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Deutsch".

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures

cc: Stark County Auditor/with enclosures

m/South Heart/SHSH-1001/corr/2011/Copies_comments_2-25-11