



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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March 23, 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 25 and March 22 on South Heart Coal LLC's application for Surface Coal Mining Permit No. SHSH-1001 for the proposed South Heart Mine. Several 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 are copies of comments that we received on this application from the North Dakota Department of Health and State Water Commission. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures

cc: Stark County Auditor/with enclosures

m/South Heart/SHSH-1001/corr/2011/Copies_comments_3-23-11