



## United States Department of the Interior



### OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Casper Area Office  
PO Box 11018  
150 East B Street, RM 1018  
Casper, WY 82602

January 22, 2014

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 authorization to proceed on the 2014 Scranton/Bowman Project-Phase 2, located in Mercer County, near the cities of Beulah and Zap, North Dakota. This project is a continuation of the 2013 Scranton/Bowman Project Phase 1. Since the scope of work and project location remain unchanged, the authorization to proceed and finding of no significant impact issued for Phase 1 of this project remain valid. We have determined that the documentation previously supplied for Phase 1 of this 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.

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 Phase 2 of this project.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Fleischman, Chief  
Denver Field Division