



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

April 3, 2019

Kenneth Fleck, Manager of Geology and Environmental Affairs  
Interwest Mining Company  
P.O. Box 310  
Huntington, Utah 84528

Subject: Conditional Approval to Revise Reference Area, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Task ID#5874

Dear Mr. Fleck:

The above-referenced amendment is approved conditioned upon receipt of 2 clean copies prepared for incorporation. Please submit these copies by May 3, 2019. Once we receive these copies, final approval will be granted.

A stamped incorporated copy of the approved plans will also be returned to you at that time, for insertion into your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5350.

Sincerely,

Steve Christensen  
Permit Supervisor

SKC/sqs

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## Technical Analysis and Findings

### Utah Coal Regulatory Program

**PID:** C0150018  
**TaskID:** 5874  
**Mine Name:** DEER CREEK MINE  
**Title:** REVISE REFERENCE AREA

#### Environmental Resource Information

##### Maps Vegetation Reference Area

###### Analysis:

The amendment meets the State of Utah R645-301-323 requirements for vegetation reference area maps. This amendment includes a map, Plate 300-2, which shows the location of the new White Fir/Aspen reference area, along with the accompanying report from Mt. Nebo Scientific which describes the new reference area and provides its GPS points.

In 2018, the Trail Mountain Fire burned through much of Rilda Canyon. Among the burned area were some of the reference areas that were to be used by mine during reclamation. Only one reference area, the Pinyon/Juniper/Mtn. Brush reference area survived the fire. Following the fire, the Forest Service arranged to retake responsibility for the Rilda Left area in order to put in catchment basins in the event of catastrophic flooding from the burn scar. Relinquishing responsibility for this area meant that not all the previous reference areas were needed, as some were designated only for the Rilda Left area. The remaining permit area was originally intended to use only the Pinyon/Juniper/Mtn. Brush and the White Fir/Aspen reference areas and seed mixes. Because the White Fir/Aspen reference area was destroyed, mine representatives contracted Mt. Nebo Scientific to find a suitable replacement White Fir/Aspen reference area. This was done in the fall of 2018 and the results are included in this amendment.

tmiller