



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

January 15, 2020

Kirk Nicholes, Resident Agent
Alton Coal Development, LLC
463 North 100 West, Suite 1
Cedar City, Utah 84720

Subject: Approval of 2019 Annual Sage Grouse Report, Alton Coal Development, LLC, Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005, Task #6048

Dear Nicholes:

The above-referenced amendment is approved effective January 15, 2020. The Division has completed a Technical Analysis of the change and found that it meets the requirements of the Utah Coal Rules. A stamped incorporated copy of the amendment is enclosed for your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

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

Sincerely,

Steve Christensen
Coal Program Manager

SKC/sqs
Enclosure
O:\025005.COL\WG6048 SAGEGROUSE RPT\Approve.doc



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

Technical Analysis and Findings

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

PID: C0250005
TaskID: 6048
Mine Name: COAL HOLLOW
Title: 2019 ANNUAL SAGE GROUSE REPORT

Operation Plan

Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement Plan

Analysis:

The amendment meets the State of Utah R645-301-333 requirements for Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement Plan.

The amendment adds the annual sage grouse report to Appendix 3-6 of Chapter 3 of the MRP. The report details accomplishments from the fall of 2018 to the fall of 2019. In February of 2019, 5 male sage grouse were observed strutting at lekking locations. During the timeframe of the report, 2,629 pinyon and juniper trees were removed from primary sage grouse habitat. Predator control also occurred in 2019 resulting in the removal of approximately 200 ravens, 15 coyotes, and 1 red fox.

tmiller