

Agenda

Meeting between:

Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII (EPA),
Wyoming Mining Association (WMA)

Date: August 16, 2018

Time: 3:00-5:00 PM

Location: Little America Motel, Cheyenne Wyoming

1. WMA Introductory Remarks 10 minutes
Orientations and Safety Contact
Introductions
2. EPA Remarks regarding the WMA 2018 NEPA White Paper 15 minutes
3. Review Agenda 5 minutes
4. The NEPA process, which is integral to the mining leasing and permitting processes, accounts for the largest expenditure of time required to procure a lease or permit. Process enhancements, to address this reality:
 - a. Focus on the overall process to guide agency review and coordination. "One Federal Decision" process as required under President Trump's Executive Order 13807 ("EO 13807") for Major Infrastructure Projects could be applied to mining-related projects.
 - b. Developing and implementing Generic Environmental Impact Statements (GEIS) for mineral leasing and permitting projects could provide a much more efficient, effective and timely environmental impact analysis.
5. EPA process for review of other agency EIS's does not focus on making meaningful suggestions for improving a project. Rather than implementing a review process that is designed to be critical and adversarial, EPA should be working constructively with sister federal agencies and project proponents to find environmental and mitigation solutions or to recognize projects that go the extra mile to protect the environment.