



**Fort Lewis Mesa  
Fire Protection District**

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January 15, 2016

To: La Plata County Planning Department

Re: GCC Energy King II Coal Mine project #2012-0089

The Fort Lewis Mesa F.P.D comments regarding the permit #2012-0089 are in regards to our experiences as an agency, my experiences having driven fire trucks as large as the coal trucks and the July 31, 2015 traffic study done by Roadrunner Engineering. The perspective is from the standpoint of public safety and how it relates to the proposal of Option 2 & 3.

**Option 2 – Coal Transport, Inbound via CR 120 southern segment, Outbound via CR 120**

**northern segment.** This option reflects in-bound (empty) transport vehicles utilize the southern segment of CR 120 with out-bound (loaded) vehicles utilizing the northern segment of CR 120.

- Trucks turning onto CR 120 are obscured by the berm on the east side of SH 140 to south bound traffic which creates visibility issues.
- Turning onto CR 120 from SH 140 northbound is a severe angle and would present challenges for drivers negotiating the intersection especially in adverse weather conditions.
- This route has 5 hills to negotiate instead of one on the northern CR 120 route.
- This route has 5 - 90 +/- degree turns opposed to 1 on the northern County 120 route.
- Increased population exposed to traffic.
- 5- county road intersections.

**Option 3 - Coal Transport, Inbound via CR 119, Outbound via CR 120 northern segment.** This

option reflects in-bound (empty) transport vehicles utilizing CR 119 with out-bound (loaded) vehicles utilizing the northern segment of CR 120

- The intersection of SH 140 & CR 119 geometry supports passenger car and single-unit vehicle movements.

- Crossing highway routes trucks through a busy school zone and poor access angles off of CR 130 onto SH140.
- Route passes through 5-county road and 2 private road intersections.
- Route travels through 2- 90 +/- degree turns.
- Increased number of residents impacted.
- Increased length of county road impacted.
- Increased congestion in vicinity of elementary school.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Chris Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light gray rectangular background.

Chief Chris Anderson

Fort Lewis Mesa Fire Protection District