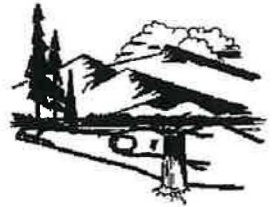




# Department of Environmental Quality

*To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.*



Mark Gordon, Governor



Todd Parfitt, Director

**TO:** Steve Lenz, Chairman, Environmental Quality Council

**FROM:** Todd Parfitt, Director, Department of Environmental Quality

**DATE:** August 14, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Hearing Request for Coal Chapter 14

The Department of Environmental Quality (Department), Land Quality Division is proposing revisions to Coal Chapter 14, Exploration for Coal by Drilling and is requesting the Environmental Quality Council review the proposal and consider adoption of these rules at your October 23, 2024 hearing.

Land Quality Division presented the proposed revisions to the Land Quality Division Advisory Board (LQAB) at the December 14, 2023 meeting as follows:

- The December 14, 2023 discussion focused on the following topics:
  - Most recent Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Concern Letter re: previously submitted formal amendment, (pgs. 8-9 Board transcript);
- The Land Quality Division did not receive any comments on the proposed revisions to Coal Chapter 14.
- LQAB voted unanimously (3-0) to advise Land Quality Division to proceed with rulemaking.

The Department sought and has been granted approval by the Governor's Office to proceed with the proposed rule on July 22, 2024.

The enclosed statement of principal reasons summarizes the nature of the revisions. We have enclosed one hard copy of the rule package including:

- Coal Chapter 14, clean copy
- Coal Chapter 14, strike and underline copy
- Statement of Principal Reasons for Adoption
- Governor Gordon's permission to proceed memo signed July 22, 2024
- Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules
- Takings Checklist and accompanying analysis
- Attorney General's Statutory Authority Review signed January 12, 2024
- December 14, 2023 LQAB Meeting transcript

cc: Kyle Wendtland, Land Quality Division Administrator

Enclosures