

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 5, 2023

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Signal Peak Energy, LLC's Federal Mine Plan for Federal Lease MTM-97988; Bull Mountains Mine Amendment 3 and 5 EIS

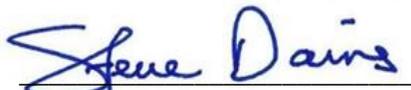
Dear Secretary Haaland,

We write to express our strong support for the continued operations of the Bull Mountains Mine by Signal Peak Energy near Roundup, MT. This mine is vital to supporting high-paying local jobs, economic development in Montana, significant state and federal royalties, and American energy security. Important to the long-term viability of the Bull Mountains Mine is the prompt completion of an Environmental Impact Statement and the expeditious review and approval of Signal Peak Energy's pending federal mine plan modification.

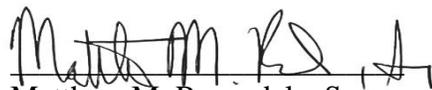
The Bull Mountains Mine is a substantial economic driver in Musselshell County and is the lifeblood of many rural communities in southcentral Montana. Signal Peak employs 235 workers in the area, accounting for wages and benefits that exceed \$35 million. Additionally, operations at Bull Mountains Mine create \$126 million in state revenue, \$27 million in federal revenue, and contributes to nearly 50% of Musselshell County's tax base, ensuring the county can provide necessary resources to meet the needs of the people who call it home. This revenue is critically important to Montana's economic vitality, particularly in rural and underdeveloped areas. Since 2011, the Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement has previously approved three Environmental Assessments authorizing the mining of the same federal coal at the Bull Mountains Mine and possesses sufficient data for the timely completion of an Environmental Impact Statement allowing continued mine operations.

We urge you to support continued operations at the Bull Mountains Mine. The United States leads the world in safe mining practices and environmental standards and these operations are key to the prosperity for our rural communities, Montana as a whole, and American security interests.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator



Matthew M. Rosendale, Sr.
United States Congressman