

# **FINAL**

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE  
NORTH ROCHELLE COAL LEASE APPLICATION AS  
APPLIED FOR BY BLUEGRASS COAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
(FEDERAL COAL LEASE APPLICATION WYW127221)**

**FES 97-13**

Prepared by

**TRC Mariah Associates Inc.  
Laramie, Wyoming**

and

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Casper District Office**

Cooperating Agencies

**U.S. Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement**

and

**U.S. Forest Service**

**April 1997**

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AS APPLIED FOR BY BLUEGRASS COAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
ABSTRACT**

Draft

Final

**Lead Agency:**

U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management

**Cooperating Agencies:**

U.S. Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

U.S. Forest Service

**Counties That Could Be Directly Affected:**

Campbell County, Wyoming

**Abstract:**

This Final Environment Impact Statement (FEIS) assesses the environmental consequences of a federal decision to offer 1,440 acres containing approximately 144 million tons of federal coal for lease at a competitive sale, subject to standard and special lease stipulations. The tract was applied for by Shell Mining Company, which is now Bluegrass Coal Development Company (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zeigler Coal Holding Company) and whose subsidiary operating unit, Triton Coal Company, operates the adjacent North Rochelle Mine. This FEIS describes the physical, biological, cultural, historic, and socioeconomic resources in and surrounding the project area. The focus for impact analysis was based upon resource issues and concerns identified during public scoping. Potential concerns related to development include impacts to soils, groundwater, and wildlife and cumulative impacts.

**Other Environmental Review or Consultation Requirements:**

This FEIS, in compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (as amended), identifies any endangered or threatened species which are likely to be affected by the Proposed Action.

**Lead Agency Contact:**

For further information contact Nancy Doelger at the Bureau of Land Management, Casper District Office, (307) 261-7627. Comments on this FEIS should be submitted in writing to:

Bureau of Land Management  
Casper District Office  
Attn: Ms. Nancy Doelger, Environmental Protection Specialist  
1701 East E Street  
Casper, WY 82601

**Date FEIS Made Available to EPA and Public:** April 18, 1997

**Date By Which Comments Must Be Received:** May 19, 1997

