

Peer Review Plan for “Independent Assessment of August 5 Gold King Mine Incident”
Prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation Technical Service Center

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide Interior’s independent assessment of factors that contributed to the August 5 Gold King Mine incident near Silverton, Colorado. The Department of the Interior was asked to conduct the assessment by the Environmental Protection Agency to review the cause of the incident and provide recommendations to prevent future incidents from occurring.

Document Type: The document is not influential or highly influential as defined by Office of Management and Budget Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review (70 FR 2664-2677) and the Reclamation Manual Peer Review of Scientific Information and Assessments Policy Temporary Release (CMP TRMR-30). This report is undergoing discretionary peer review. The report is not a decisional document; public comment is not being sought.

Peer Review Scope and Methodology: Peer review will be conducted by technical experts including independent Reclamation staff, the United States Geological Survey and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It is expected that three to four individuals will provide the technical expert review.

Peer Review Timing: The review will take place between October 13 and October 20, 2015. The peer review plan will be posted to Reclamation’s Peer Review website. Inquiries to learn the specifics of the peer review plan may be directed to Thomas Luebke, Director, Technical Service Center (303) 445-2600.