



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

1849 C Street, NW – MS 2342-MIB

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

ELECTRONIC MAIL MEMO

September 30, 2004

To: Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs*
Director, Fish and Wildlife Service
Director, National Park Service
Director, Geological Survey
Director, Office of Surface Mining
Director, Bureau of Land Management

From:  Team Leader, Natural Resources Management
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Subject: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Southern Montana Electric Cooperative, Inc., Coal-Fired Electric Generation Facility, Great Falls, Montana

(ER 04/727)(Agency due date: **November 12, 2004**)

The Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has published in the September 24, 2004, Federal Register a notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the subject project. You may view the notice at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a040924c.html.

This notice gives you an early opportunity to provide technical assistance and/or to participate from your areas of special expertise or jurisdiction. If significant involvement is indicated, you should also participate in the follow-up scoping activities.

Comments should be made directly to the person/address listed in the notice by **November 12, 2004**. Please provide a copy of any comments you make to this office.

/s/ 09/30/04
Vijai N. Rai

cc: Assistant Secretaries
Regional Environmental Officer, Denver

OEPC Staff Contact: Loretta B. Sutton, (202) 208-7565; Loretta_Sutton@ios.doi.gov

*Hard copy distributed by regular mail