

**BILLINGS COUNTY**

Planning Unit 009: AML Printout #8: T140N, R102W, Section 26, NW

Additional Legal Location: Section 26, SW; Section 26, SW, NE;  
Section 26, NW, NW; Section 26, NW, E1/2  
(see Notes)

Name:	Owner:
High Grade Coal Mine (1913-1919)	N.D. Nichols (1912-1918)
High Grade Coal Company (1920-1921)	High Grade Lignite Coal Co. (1914-1918 and 1940)
High Grade Lignite Coal Company (1922)	No data (1919-1939 and 1941- 1946)
High Grade Coal Company (1923)	
High Grade Lignite Coal Company (1924- 1946)	
(aka Hi-Grade Lignite Coal Company-- 1937) (possibly aka Medora High Grade Coal Mine-- 1921)	

Type: Underground, drift (1913-1918), slope (1923), drift (1925-1930),  
slope (1936), drift (1937-1946); single entry (1914-1915), double  
(1912-1913, 1916-1926 and likely remaining years)

		Thickness	
Overburden:	Coal Seam:	Mined:	Source:
0-275 ft.	9-10 ft.	7 ft.	SEBR:1914
40-150 ft.	9 ft.	7 ft.	SEBR:1916
274 ft.	7 1/2-9 ft.	6-7 ft.	SEBR:1918

Cultural Resource Site Number: Not formally recorded

Basic Data (excerpted from primary sources):

This mine is not listed as a new mine in 1912, and it likely was in operation prior to that time. The 1914 SEBR indicates that a burning coal seam was noted near the area of the seam worked at this mine, which produced heat and fumes in the mine proper. The drift entry caved in 1915, and a new drift was opened in about 1915 or 1916. The mine was condemned in 1921; however, it was back in operation in 1922. The mine is listed as not operating again in 1930, and it was reopened in 1936 with a new operator. The mine is listed as not operating again in 1941, and it again reopened in 1943, apparently under a new operator. The mine is listed as not operating again in 1946, and since no further listings were noted for the mine, it is assumed that it ceased operations in about 1946; however, it is possible that the mine was operated but not reported or that the mine was operated and reported under some other name following 1946.

Descriptive information pertaining to this mine is included in:

[source:year (pages)]

High Grade Lignite Company(continued)

CMID:1920(18)

CMID:1921(27)

CMID:1926(20)

SEBR:1914(122-123)

SEBR:1916(127)

SEBR:1918(133)

WCB Map:1940

Notes:

It should be noted that discrepancies exist in legal locations noted for the High Grade Coal Mine. The SEBRs all indicate that the mine was situated at T140N, R102W, Section 26, SW. However, a 1940 WCB map indicates that the mine company owned Section 26, NW, E1/2, and it illustrates the mine workings at Section 26, NW, NW, extending toward Section 26, NW, E1/2. It is possible that the mine was begun in Section 26, SW, and that it later extended into Section 26, NW.

The SEBR list both N.D. Nichols and the High Grade Lignite Coal Co. as owners of this mine from 1914 through 1918. The WCB map (1940) refers to the "coal company owns," which seems to indicate that the High Grade Lignite Coal Co. still owned the mine in 1940. No additional data was noted to support this assumption.

The NDGS:1921(Bulletin 4) refers to a Medora High Grade Coal mine at this location; therefore, it appears that this mine may be referred to as the Medora High Grade Coal Mine in some sources.

The De Mores Coal Mine also is located at this Planning Unit and AML location.

Sources (primary and secondary):

CMID:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Leonard et al.:1925(38)

NDGS:1921(Bulletin 4)

SEBR:see table, next page, for appropriate years

Mine: High Grade Coal Mine (1913-1919)  
 High Grade Coal Company (1920-1921)  
 High Grade Lignite Coal Company (1922)  
 High Grade Coal Company (1923)0  
 High Grade Lignite Coal Company (1924-1946)  
 (aka Hi-Grade Lignite Coal Company-1937)

Planning Unit: 009  
 AML Number: 8

Year	Days Operated	Employees	Price Per Ton	Tons Produced	Tons Local Trade	Tons Shipped	Owner Or Superintendent*
1912	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	N.D. Nichols
1913	39	6	1.50	1,500	no data	1,500	N.D. Nichols
1914	300	10	1.50	6,877	yes	8,000***	High Grade Lignite Coal Co.
1915	302	13	1.50	10,590	no data	10,590	High Grade Lignite Coal Co.
1916	240	15	1.50	20,515	no data	20,515	High Grade Lignite Coal Co.
1917	no data	29	1.65	22,081	240	22,081	High Grade Lignite Coal Co.
1919	220	24	no data	25,000	no data	no data	N.D. Nichols**
1920	237	18	2.00	25,548	100	25,298	N.D. Nichols**
1921	232	30	2.00	25,609	100	25,509	N.D. Nichols**
1921	"condemned"						
1922	191	36	2.56	30,735	200	30,535	N.D. Nichols**
1923	209	33	2.492	26,867	100	26,767	N.D. Nichols**
1924	110	34	2.02	11,445	145	11,600	W.J. Ray**
1925	109	19	1.85	8,230	80	8,150	N.D. Nichols**
1926	40	17	1.87	2,986	100	2,886	N.D. Nichols**
1927	32	6	2.00	382	12	370	W.J. Ray**
1928	90	5	2.00	2,000	none	2,000	W.J. Ray**
1929	80	7	2.00	1,901	101	1,800	W.J. Ray**
1930	no data	no data	no data	not in operation	no data	no data	no data
1936	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data
1937	35	no data	1.25	70	70	none	Joe Brittner**
1938	35	no data	1.25	95	95	none	Joe Brittner**
1939	30	no data	1.25	125	125	none	Joe Brittner**
1940	124	4	2.00	2,202	2,202	none	John Taylor**
1941	100	2	2.20	695	695	none	John Taylor**
1941	"not operating"						
1942	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data	no data
1943	180	4	2.50	704	704	none	Walter J. Ray**
1945		2	2.25	253	250	none	Walter J. Ray**
1946	50	no data	no data	not in operation	no data	no data	Walter J. Ray**

\*Unless otherwise indicated, name listed is that of owner.

\*\*Individual was superintendent of the mine; owner not listed.

\*\*\*"Estimate" according to SEBR.