



UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

Mail Stop 3561

September 13, 2016

Via E-mail

Mr. Heath A. Hill  
Chief Financial Officer  
Cloud Peak Energy Inc.  
505 S. Gillette Avenue  
Gillette, WY 82716

**Re: Cloud Peak Energy Inc.  
Form 10-K for the Year Ended December 31, 2015  
Filed February 18, 2016  
File No. 001-34547**

Dear Mr. Hill:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filing and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/Craig Arakawa

Craig Arakawa  
Accounting Branch Chief  
Office of Beverages, Apparel, and  
Mining