

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215

Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone: (303) 866-3567

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October 30, 2013

Kathleen G. Welt
Mountain Coal Company, LLC
P.O. Box 591
Somerset, CO 81434

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Pineda
Director

**Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Bond Release Application No. 4 (SL-4)**

Dear Ms. Welt:

In accordance with Rule 3.03.2(5)(b) of the Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Coal Mining (Rules), you are hereby notified that the Division's decision to Approve Bond Release Application No. 4 for the West Elk Mine became final on October 21, 2013.

Bond Release No. 4 reduces your reclamation liability by \$196,037.00. The current liability is now \$14,093,955.30. The Division suggests you provide a copy of this letter (and, for federal operations, copies of the OSM and BLM concurrence letters) to your bonding company for written evidence of approval to reduce your bond. If you choose to reduce or replace your existing bond, it must equal or exceed \$14,093,955.30. If this release constitutes a full and final bond release, the Division will return your performance bond to you as soon as possible.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Stark", enclosed within a blue oval.

James R. Stark
Environmental Protection Specialist
Jim.stark@state.co.us

cc: Mary Rodriguez, DRMS

C-SL-18