

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215

Denver, Colorado 80203

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December 27, 2013

Western Slope Conservation Center
P.O. Box 1612
Paonia, CO 81428

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Pineda
Director

Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Revision: MR-403
Temporary Topsoil Pile

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has received a revision for the West Elk Mine. The revision was deemed complete on December 27, 2013. The decision due date is January 6, 2014.

The Mountain Coal Company, LLC has submitted a Minor Revision to the West Elk mine's permit. The revision proposes to add a temporary topsoil stockpile, install a culvert in a ditch and line a ditch with a liner instead of riprap. The proposed temporary topsoil stockpile is located at the upper bench of the RPEE. Topsoil was stripped from the next lift at the RPEE but West Elk is not able to haul it to the Sylvester Gulch topsoil stockpile due to weather conditions. The proposed culvert is located in the temporary western clear water ditch. The proposed ditch liner is located in a portion of the west sediment ditch. There will be no changes to the mine's permit boundary, disturbance area or affected area as a result of the changes proposed in this Minor Revision. There will be an increase in the mine's reclamation liability as a result of the changes proposed in this revision.

This revision application is available for review at the Gunnison County Clerk and Recorder, 221 N. Wisconsin, Gunnison, CO 81230.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James R. Stark".

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

C-CL-01