

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

FAX: (303) 832-8106



March 6, 2014

Kathleen 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. 5 (SL-5)**

Dear Ms. Welt:

The Division has issued a proposed decision to Approve Bond Release Application No. 5 (SL-5) for the West Elk Mine. Enclosed is the Division's decision form and written findings. Notice of the proposed decision will be published in the *Delta County Independent*, as soon as possible. Publication of the notice initiates a thirty-day public comment period. If there are no requests for an adjudicatory hearing within the thirty days, the decision will become final.

As provided by Rule 3.03.2(6), should you object to the Division's proposed decision, you may request an adjudicatory hearing.

If there are stipulations attached, please sign and return the proposed decision form to the Division.

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

Sincerely,

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

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

Enclosures

cc: CC.Table1, with enclosures

C-SL-07



COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY
 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567

COAL MINING PERMIT - BOND RELEASE DECISION

West Elk Mine, Mountain Coal Company, LLC
 Permit No. C-1980-007

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has proposed the decision stated below. Provided there are no objections, the decision will become final in accordance with the requirements of Rule 3.03.2(5)(b).

Bond Release No. 5

Decision: Approve

Submittal Date: February 11, 2013

Decision Date: February 11, 2014

Description of Release: Request for Phase I Bond Release

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY PERMITTEE

Authorized Representative

Authorized Representative

Date: March 6, 2014

Date:

CHANGE IN ACREAGE		REVISED TOTAL ACREAGE		PERFORMANCE BOND	
Disturbed:	0.00	Disturbed:	597.25	Prior Liability:	\$14,093,955.30
Affected:	0.00	Affected:	15,257.60	Change in Liability:	(\$94,475.00)
Permit:	0.00	Permit:	17,154.90	Revised Liability:	\$13,999,480.30
State:	0.00	State:	0.00	Bond Held:	\$15,000,000.00
Federal:	0.00	Federal:	11,758.40		
Private:	0.00	Private:	5,396.50		
County:	PR.Proposed	County:	C>		
	_County_acr		PF.County_acreage		
			+		
			PR.Proposed_Count		
			y_acreage		

RELEASED ACREAGE REMAINING IN PERMIT BOUNDARY

	<u>Phase I</u>	<u>Phase II</u>	<u>Phase III</u>
Disturbed	13.85	0.00	0.00
Affected	0.00	0.00	0.00
Permitted	0.00	0.00	0.00

REVISED APPLICATION PAGES

None

DELETED APPLICATION PAGES

None

REVISED MAPS

None

DELETED MAPS

None