

# 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

Alan Boehms  
Office of Surface Mining  
Western Regional Coordinating Center  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320  
Denver, CO 80202

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 Mr. Boehms:

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has issued a proposed decision to Approve Bond Release Application No. 5 at the West Elk Mine. This decision will become final at the close of the thirty (30) day public comment period, which commences with the initial publication in the *Delta County Independent*. A copy of the proposed decision and written findings is enclosed.

Since this mine is a federal mine, our decision is subject to the concurrence of OSM, and the signature of an authorized OSM representative is required for release of the bond. Therefore, the Division respectfully requests that OSM notify the Division of concurrence or nonconcurrence prior to the end of the public comment period, in accordance with the agreement dated June 30, 1997, Procedures for Cooperating State and Federal Agencies to Provide Mutual Concurrence on the Release of Performance Bonds from Federal Lands Coal Mining Operations.

If you have questions or need of additional information, 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

Enclosure

C-SL-12