

# 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 7, 2014

Town of Paonia  
P.O. Box 460  
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: SL-6**  
**Phase III Bond Release**

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has received an application for the above mentioned permitting action for the West Elk Mine. The application was deemed complete on March 7, 2014.

The Mountain Coal Company, LLC has submitted an application for a Phase III Bond Release for the West Elk Mine. A Phase III Bond Release is a final bond release and termination of the Division's jurisdiction for the areas requested. The proposed release is for the Lone Pine area, the Thermal Event area and the West Point area. The proposed release areas cover approximately 24.2 acres. Since this is a bond release, there will be a decrease in the mine's reclamation liability. The amount of the liability release will be determined following an application review and the bond release inspection.

This revision application is available for review at the Gunnison County Clerk and Recorder, 221 N. Wisconsin, Suite C, Gunnison, CO 812.

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-CI-01