



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

June 24, 2015

Town of Paonia
P.O. Box 460
Paonia, CO 81428

Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Revision: MR-412
Upper Poison Gulch Road Stabilization

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has received an application for the above referenced permitting action for the West Elk Mine. The application was deemed complete on June 24, 2015.

The Mountain Coal Company, LLC has submitted a Minor Revision to the West Elk Mine's permit. The revision proposes to stabilize approximately 450-feet of the Upper Poison Gulch Road from MVB E5-15 to the turnoff to E6-12. Mountain Coal plans to use a combination of culverts, geotextile fabric and road base to stabilize the road. This road has been previously approved so there will be no changes to the mine's permitted acreage, affected acreage or disturbed acreage. The Division will determine if there is an increase in the mine's reclamation liability during technical adequacy. The applicant is not proposing additional surface disturbance outside of the area currently approved for disturbance.

Permit Revision (PR), Permit Renewal (RN), or Technical Revision (TR) application materials are available for review at the Gunnison County Clerk and Recorder, 221 N. Wisconsin, Suite C, Gunnison, CO 81230 and at the Division's Denver office. Minor Revision (MR) and Surety Release (SL) application materials are available for review at the Division's Denver office.

If you have any questions, please contact me.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by 'R. Stark'.

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

C-CI-01