



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

July 7, 2015

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

Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Revision: SL-8
Phase I Bond Release

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 July 7, 2015.

The Mountain Coal Company, LLC has submitted a Partial Phase I Bond Release application for the West Elk Mine. The requested release is for sealing of mine ventilation boreholes and the reclamation of their associated drill pads and light-use roads. The reclaimed sites were for longwall panel E3 and are located in the Dry Fork of Minnesota Creek. All reclamation was completed in 2014. The application requests the release of approximately 10.05 acres and \$110,452.00. There are no proposed changes to the mine's permitted, affected or disturbed acreages as a result of this revision.

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