



## COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

November 12, 2015

Kathleen G. Welt  
Mountain Coal Company, LLC  
P.O. Box 591  
Somerset, CO 81434

**Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)  
Permit Expiration**

Dear Ms. Welt:

The purpose of this letter, as required by Rule 2.08.5(2)(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Coal Mining, is to inform you that the five-year permit term for the West Elk Mine will expire on July 31, 2016. In order to ensure that Mountain Coal Company, LLC may continue operating the mine beyond that date, a complete application for renewal of the permit must be received at least 180 days prior to its expiration (Rule 2.08.5(3)(f)). Therefore, a complete application would be required on or before February 2, 2016.

A renewal application form is available on the Division's web site at <http://mining.state.co.us/SiteCollectionDocuments/RenewalApp.pdf>. The form should be submitted with the following information, at a minimum, as required by Rule 2.08.5(2)(b):

1. A statement of the name and address of the permittee, the term of the requested renewal, the permit number, and a description of any changes to the matters set forth in the original application for a permit or prior permit renewal;
2. A copy of the newspaper notice to be placed in a local newspaper in accordance with the requirements of Rule 2.07.3(2); and
3. Evidence that a liability insurance policy or adequate self-insurance under Rule 2.03.9 will be provided by the applicant for the proposed period of renewal.



Should you or your staff have questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leigh Simmons", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leigh D. Simmons  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
[Leigh.Simmons@state.co.us](mailto:Leigh.Simmons@state.co.us)