



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

December 2, 2015

Delta County Independent
401 Meeker
P.O. Box 809
Delta, CO 81416
Dwebster@deltacountyindependent.com

**Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Bond Release Application No. 8 (SL-8)**

To Whom It May Concern:

Please publish the enclosed legal notice once per week for two consecutive weeks, as soon as possible. For reimbursement, please send the invoice and proof of publication to Alysha H. Hernandez of our office at the above address. For questions or correspondence regarding the publication, please contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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

Enclosure

C-SL-14



Notice of Proposed Decision

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has issued a proposed decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 8 (SL-8) for the West Elk Mine, Permit No. C-1980-007. The underground operation is operated by Mountain Coal Company, LLC under the provisions of the Colorado Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Act of 1979. The bond release application was submitted by Mountain Coal Company, LLC on May 18, 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. The affected area is located in Delta, Gunnison County, approximately 9 miles East of Paonia, Colorado.

Copies of the proposed decision are available for review at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety office, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, and on the Division's website at

<http://mining.state.co.us/Reports/MiningData/Pages/ImagedDocumentData.aspx>. A user's guide for our document imaging system is also available in pdf format at the same web address.

Any person who has an interest which is or may be adversely affected may request an adjudicatory hearing regarding this proposed decision. Requests for a hearing must be made in writing within thirty (30) days of the first publication of this notice, and shall state with reasonable specificity the reasons for the request and objections to the proposed decision.