



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

December 2, 2015

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

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

Dear Ms. Welt:

The Division has issued a proposed decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 8 (SL-8) for the West Elk Mine. Enclosed is the Division's decision form and written findings. Notice of the proposed decision will be published in the *Delta County Independent*, as soon as possible. Publication of the notice initiates a thirty-day public comment period. If there are no requests for an adjudicatory hearing within the thirty days, the decision will become final.

As provided by Rule 3.03.2(6), should you object to the Division's proposed decision, you may request an adjudicatory hearing.

If there are stipulations attached, please sign and return the proposed decision form to the Division.



If you have questions or are in need of additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of two overlapping loops, representing the name James R. Stark.

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

Enclosures



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1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203 P 303.866.3567 F 303.832.8106 <http://mining.state.co.us>

COAL MINING PERMIT - BOND RELEASE DECISION

West Elk Mine, Mountain Coal Company, LLC

Permit No. C-1980-007

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has proposed the decision stated below. Provided there are no objections, the decision will become final in accordance with the requirements of Rule 3.03.2(5)(b).

Bond Release No. 8

Decision: Approve

Submittal Date: May 18, 2015

Decision Date: November 20, 2015

Description of Release: Phase I Bond Release

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY PERMITTEE

Michael P. Boulay

Authorized Representative

Authorized Representative

Date: December 2, 2015

Date:

CHANGE IN ACREAGE		REVISED TOTAL ACREAGE		PERFORMANCE BOND	
Disturbed:	0.00	Disturbed:	560.15	Prior Liability:	\$14,133,349.30
Affected:	0.00	Affected:	14,632.10	Change in Liability:	(\$110,452.00)
Permit:	0.00	Permit:	17,154.90	Revised Liability:	\$14,022,897.30
State:	0.00	State:	0.00	Bond Held:	\$15,000,000.00
Federal:	0.00	Federal:	11,758.40		
Private:	0.00	Private:	5,396.50		
County:	0.00	County:	0.00		

RELEASED ACREAGE REMAINING IN PERMIT BOUNDARY

	<u>Phase I</u>	<u>Phase II</u>	<u>Phase III</u>
Disturbed	10.05	0.00	0.00
Affected	0.00	0.00	0.00
Permitted	0.00	0.00	0.00

REVISED APPLICATION PAGES

None

DELETED APPLICATION PAGES

None

REVISED MAPS

None

DELETED MAPS

None