

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

December 29, 2015

Western Slope Conservation Center P.O. Box 1612 Paonia, CO 81428

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

Revision: SL-9

Phase III 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 December 29, 2015.

Mountain Coal Company (MCC) is requesting Phase III Bond Release for reclaimed methane ventilation wells and associated road segments at the Deep Creek, Long Draw, Long Draw Saddle, and West Point Road areas. These areas comprise approximately 22.1 acres of private and National Forest System land in Gunnison County, Colorado. Reclamation was completed between 2002 and 2004.

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,

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Leigh D. Simmons Environmental Protection Specialist Leigh.Simmons@state.co.us

C-CI-01