

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

January 5, 2016

Chris Gilbreath Tri-State Generation and Transmission Assoc., Inc P.O. Box 33695 Denver, CO 80233-0695

Re: New Horizon Mine (Permit No. C-1981-008) Bond Release Application No. 16 (SL-16)

Dear Mr. Gilbreath:

The Division has issued a proposed decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 16 (SL-16) for the New Horizon Mine. Enclosed is the Division's decision form and written findings. Notice of the proposed decision will be published in the *San Miguel Basin Forum*, 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,

Brak Sauls

Brock F. Bowles Environmental Protection Specialist Brock.bowles@state.co.us

Enclosures

C-SL-07



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

New Horizon Mine, Western Fuels-Colorado, LLC Permit No. C-1981-008

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. 16 Submittal Date: August 3, 2015 Description of Release: Phase 1 Bond Release of 107.8 acres

Decision: Approve Decision Date: January 5, 2016

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND PERMITTEE SAFETY

Van Od Herrand

| Authorized Representative | | | Authorized Representative | | | |
|---------------------------|------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------|--|
| Date: January 5, 2016 | | Date: | | | | |
| CHANGE IN ACREAGE | | REVISED TOTAL ACREAGE | | PERFORMANCE BOND | | |
| Disturbed: | 0.00 | Disturbed: | 862.37 | Prior Liability: | \$5,432,359.95 | |
| Affected: | 0.00 | Affected: | 862.37 | Change in Liability: | (\$436,761.74) | |
| Permit: | 0.00 | Permit: | 928.89 | Revised Liability: | \$4,995,598.21 | |
| State: | 0.00 | State: | 0.00 | Bond Held: | \$5,300,000.00 | |
| Federal: | 0.00 | Federal: | 0.00 | | | |
| Private: | 0.00 | Private: | 928.89 | | | |
| County: | 0.00 | County: | 0.00 | | | |

RELEASED ACREAGE REMAINING IN PERMIT BOUNDARY

| | Phase I | Phase II | Phase III |
|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| Disturbed | 107.80 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Affected | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Permitted | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

REVISED APPLICATION PAGES

DELETED APPLICATION PAGES NA REVISED MAPS

NA DELETED MAPS NA