



**COLORADO**

**Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

January 11, 2016

Kathleen G. 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:

In accordance with Rule 3.03.2(5)(b) of the Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Coal Mining (Rules), you are hereby notified that the Division's decision to approve Bond Release Application No. 8 for the West Elk Mine became final on January 9, 2016.

Bond Release No. 8 reduces your reclamation liability by (\$110,452.00). The current liability is now \$14,022,897.30. The Division suggests you provide a copy of this letter (and, for federal operations, copies of the OSM and BLM concurrence letters) to your bonding company for written evidence of approval to reduce your bond. If you choose to reduce or replace your existing bond, it must equal or exceed \$14,022,897.30. If this release constitutes a full and final bond release, the Division will return your performance bond to you as soon as possible.

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



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Simmons".

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

cc: Alysha H. Hernandez, DRMS  
Alan Boehms, Office of Surface Mining

Enclosure

C-SL-18