

October 31, 2016

Mr. Brock Bowles
Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 20203

Dear Mr. Bowles,

Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC, New Horizon Mine has applied for Phase II bond release (SL-15) on my property. I have reviewed the application materials and the mitigation work that has occurred on my property and I provided my concurrence to approve the SL-15 bond release application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bud Benson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bud" and last name "Benson" clearly distinguishable.

Bud Benson