

**STATE OF  
COLORADO****Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>**

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**(no subject)**

1 message

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**Gray, Daniel E -FS** <daniel.gray@usda.gov>

Fri, Jan 29, 2021 at 1:42 PM

To: "HStrand@osmre.gov" &lt;HStrand@osmre.gov&gt;

Cc: "tmedlin@osmre.gov" &lt;tmedlin@osmre.gov&gt;, Leigh Simmons &lt;Leigh.Simmons@state.co.us&gt;, "KWelt@archrsc.com" &lt;KWelt@archrsc.com&gt;

Hi Howard: Attached is the concurrence letter from the Forest Service for the SL-11 Phase III bond release for the West Elk Mine. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Dan

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**sl11concurrenceletter\_29january2021.pdf**

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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Paonia Ranger District

403 North Rio Grande Avenue  
P.O. Box 1030  
Paonia, CO 81428  
970-527-4131  
Fax: 970-527-4151

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**File Code:** 2820

**Date:** January 26, 2021

Howard Strand  
OSMRE-Denver Field Branch  
P.O. Box 25065  
Lakewood, CO  
80225

Dear Mr. Strand:

The Paonia Ranger District received and reviewed the "Proposed Decision and Findings of Compliance" submitted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety for the West Elk Mine's SL-11, Partial Phase III Bond Release. This bond release contains 15 well pads and 10 segments of road totaling 15.25 acres.

Although a representative of the Forest Service was not present on the days that the bond release inspections were conducted by CDRMS, OSMRE and the West Elk Mine, the locations were inspected shortly afterward.

The Paonia Ranger District agrees with the findings of this report and concurs with the decision for Phase III Bond Release.

If you have any questions please contact Daniel Gray at [daniel.gray@usda.gov](mailto:daniel.gray@usda.gov) or at (970) 527-4131.

Sincerely,

LEVI BROYLES  
District Ranger

