



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

File Code: 2820
Date: March 15, 2021

Mr. James Stark
Coal Program Director
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman St., Suite 215
Denver, CO
80203

Dear Mr. Stark:

The Paonia Ranger District has reviewed the Proposed Decision and Findings of Compliance submitted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety for the Elk Creek Mine's SL-2 Phase I, II and III Bond Release. This bond release contains 138.74 acres of reclaimed lands on private and federal surface.

A representative of the Forest Service was present for the inspections and concurs with the decision of CDRMS for Phase I and II bond release on the 32.98 acres of reclaimed roads and well pads on Forest Service lands.

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

Sincerely,

for

LEVI BROYLES
District Ranger

