

May 12, 2021

Kurt Blunt Blue Mountain Energy, Inc. 3607 County Rd. 65 Rangely, CO 81648

RE: Deserado Mine, Permit No. C-1981-018
1st Quarter 2021 Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks

Dear Kurt,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (the Division) has reviewed the Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2021. The report was received on May 3, 2021. The Division finds the report to be in compliance with the following Rules:

- **4.10.2(1)** The coal waste banks were inspected, on behalf of the person conducting surface coal mining operations, by a qualified registered engineer.
- **4.10.2(2)(a)** The inspection was conducted quarterly as required by the Division.
- **4.10.2(2)(b)** The inspection included observations necessary to evaluate the potential hazard to human life and property, to ensure that all organic material and topsoil have been removed and that proper construction and maintenance are occurring in accordance with the plan submitted under Rule 2.05.3(8) and approved by the Division.
- **4.10.2(2)(c)** The engineer considered the steepness of the slopes, seepage, and other visual factors which would indicate potential failure, and the results of failure with respect to the threat to human life and property.
- 4.10.2(2)(d) Copies of the inspection findings are maintained at the mine site.
- **4.10.2(3)** There were no potential hazards identified in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks.



Kurt Blunt Page 2 of 2 5/10/2021

Maintenance work conducted during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter included stockpiling refuse on RP-2/3/4 and RP-5a. There were no indications of seepage or any indications of slope failure. The slopes of the piles are stable and only some localized erosion has occurred. The surface drainage facilities are properly conveying surface runoff from the refuse bank areas. No Compaction testing was performed during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

This concludes the Division's review of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021 Professional Certification of the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the Deserado Mine. If you have any questions, please contact me at (303)-866-3567 x 8144 or clayton.wein@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Clayton Wein

Clayton Wein

**Environmental Protection Specialist**