



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

Nicki Poulos
Mountain Coal Company, LLC
5174 Highway 133
Somerset, CO 81434
September 7, 2021

Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Surety Release No. 14, (SL-14)
Second Adequacy Review

Dear Ms. Poulos,

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) has completed the review of the August 16th response to the SL-14 initial adequacy review letter. Please respond to the adequacy items below:

1. Holes/pads E7-6, E7-8, E7-9 and E8-6 have been withdrawn from the SL-14 application.
The response is sufficient.
2. Wells 96-2-2 SOM-3B and SOM-3E have been withdrawn from the SL-13 application and added to the SL-14 application.
Inclinometers RPEE I12-04 and -05 have been withdrawn from all bond release applications.
The response is sufficient.
3. "Portal Investigation Holes – Lick Creek" comprise holes 10LC01 and 10LC02. They were drilled in the existing roadway and have no associated disturbance. As such the only reclamation tasks associated with them must be Plugging and Abandonment. This is a similar situation to the holes discussed in item 2 of this list.

Please withdraw holes 10LC01 and 10LC02 from the SL-13 application and include them with the SL-14 application. These sites will be inspected at the earliest opportunity so that the SL-14 process can move forward.

Yours sincerely,

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist

CC: Kathy Welt, Jessica Wilczek

