

## United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING Reclamation and Enforcement Western Region Office P.O. Box 25065 Lakewood, Colorado 80225



December 19, 2022

Jason Musick Coal Program Supervisor Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

Re: Partial Phase III Bond Release SL-8; Bowie Resources, LLC; Bowie No. 1 Mine; C-1981-038

Dear Mr. Musick,

This letter acknowledges the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement - Denver Field Branch's (OSMRE-DFB) receipt and review of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (DRMS) November 23, 2022 Proposed Decision and Findings of Compliance regarding the Bowie No. 1 Mine SL-8 partial Phase III bond release application. OSMRE agrees with the proposed decision and hereby provides concurrence in accordance with 30 CFR 740.15 (d)(3) and 30 CFR 906.30, Article IX, Section 24 of the State-Federal Cooperative Agreement.

By email dated June 24, 2022 DRMS invited OSMRE to attend the SL-8 field inspection at the Bowie No. 1 Mine; OSMRE participated in the inspection which was held on July 20, 2022. The surface and mineral ownership associated with SL-8 is federal. Accordingly, by letter dated December 17, 2022 the Bureau of Land Management - Uncompany Field Office provided its concurrence with DRMS's proposed decision. OSMRE interprets this to mean Bowie Resources, LLC (BRL) is in compliance with all stipulations associated with its federal leases.

DRMS's proposed decision notes BRL's compliance with the Colorado regulatory program at Rule 3.03.1 (2)(c) and recommends approving partial Phase III bond release on 12.31 acres at the Bowie No. 1 Mine. DRMS currently holds a performance bond in the amount of \$6,998,267.43 which covers the entire permit area including the acreage proposed for release. Under SL-8 DRMS proposes to release a total of \$60,430.00 from reclamation liability. OSMRE concurs with DRMS's proposed decision.

Thank you and your staff for coordinating this bond release action through the OSMRE - Denver Field Branch.

Sincerely,

Tom Medlin AML & Regulatory Program Specialist Denver Field Branch