



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: January 5, 2024

Tom Medlin
AML & Regulatory Program Specialist
Office of Surface Mining-Western Region
One Federal Center, Building 41
P.O. Box 25065
Denver, CO
80225

Dear Mr. Medlin:

The Paonia Ranger District has reviewed the Proposed Decision and Findings of Compliance for the Elk Creek Mine's SL-8, Partial Phase III Bond Release. The bond release contains 9.5 acres of road and well pad reclamation on private, and BLM and Forest Service administered lands. A representative of the Paonia Ranger District was present for the bond release inspection on October 25, 2023.

The Paonia Ranger District concurs with the decision for Phase III bond release. If you have any questions please contact Daniel Gray at daniel.gray@usda.gov or at (970) 527-4131.

Sincerely,

LEVI BROYLES
District Ranger

