



Jessica Wilczek, P.E.
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June 18, 2024

Mr. Leigh Simmons
Colorado Department of Natural Resources
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
August 16, 2021

Re: West Elk Mine (Permit No. C-1980-007)
Technical Revision No. 154, (TR-154)
Initial Adequacy Review

Dear Mr. Simmons,

Mountain Coal Company, LLC (MCC), Permit No. C-1980-007, submits this letter and attachment in response to your adequacy letter dated May 29, 2024, regarding MCC's TR-154 application for the West Elk Mine.

MCC has included with this response a Memorandum written by Wright Water Engineers addressing the hydrologic consequences of Pillaring in the Sunset Mains.

Please contact me with any other questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jessica Wilczek".

Jessica Wilczek, P.E.
Manager of Engineering and Environmental Affairs

Mountain Coal Company, L.L.C.
A subsidiary of Arch Resources, Inc.
West Elk Mine
5174 Highway 133
Somerset, CO 81434
(970) 929-2200
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Rules 2.05.2 & 2.05.3 Operation Plan

1. The pillaring plan proposed with TR-154 shows that two new entries will be developed to the south of the existing mains in most of the project area, but there will be a break between cross-cuts 13 and 16. The break is described in the Agapito study, but it is not explained.

Please clarify why the plan does not include the development of new entries between cross-cuts 13 and 16.

MCC anticipates placing seals between cross-cuts 13 and 16, therefore those pillars will not be mined.

Rules 2.05.6(3) Protection of the hydrological balance

1. The geotechnical study is thorough, but it does not contemplate the hydrologic consequences of the proposed plan.

Please provide an analysis of the probable hydrologic consequences of the proposed activity.

A Memorandum written by Wright Water Engineers addressing the hydrologic consequences of Pillaring in the Sunset Mains is included with this submittal.