

**PLATEAU  
MINING  
CORPORATION**

Willow Creek Mine  
PO Box 30  
847 NW Hwy 191  
Helper, Utah 84526  
(435) 472-0475  
Fax: (435) 472-4782

An affiliate of **RAG**

November 6, 2003

INCOMING  
C 0070006  
TASK ID # 1768

Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

**Re: Phase I Bond Release Application, Star Point Mine, Plateau Mining Corporation, C/007/006, Carbon County, Utah**

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) is submitting its application for Phase I Bond Release for its Star Point Mine. As the Division knows, the Star Point Mine ceased operation in February 2000. Demolition activities commenced shortly thereafter on the overland conveyance and processing facilities. Sealing, backfilling, and reseeded of the remote fan site locations in Corner Canyon and Mudwater Canyon were accomplished in the Fall of 2000 as were the sealing of the Lion Deck portals.

In 2001, demolition work continued with the razing of the unit train loadout and subsequent backfilling and grading of the immediate and adjacent areas. Also in 2001, the No.1 Mine Road area was backfilled and graded. All requisite backfilling and grading work, channel construction, soil preparation and revegetation activities were also accomplished in sequence.

2002 brought forth the final demolition of the remaining structures, which included the Lion Deck bathhouse, warehouse, and shop, and subsequent backfilling and grading, channel construction, soil preparation, and revegetation of the remaining areas - the lion deck, overland conveyor, and main channel. During the growth media placement over the coal processing waste backfill material, every effort was made to ensure at least four-feet of suitable growth media was placed over the backfill.

Also during 2002, a post mining land use change was permitted and achieved to facilitate the installation of two coal bed methane wells and utility corridor by ConocoPhillips within PMC's permit area. As part of the post mining land use change, a portion of the disturbed land was reclaimed to facilitate the gas wells and utility corridor.

The attached application includes: as-built topography and treatment maps, as-built reclamation cross-sections, as-built reclamation watersheds and diversions, as-built reclamation channel cross-sections, text page replacements, as-built hydrology calculations and construction, proposed public notice, notification letters to landowners, state, federal, and local government agencies, and a reclamation certification.

As-built topography, except for Corner and Mudwater Canyon fan sites, was generated from aerial photography taken this June. Whenever possible, aerial photography is the preferred and least expensive method for generating surface topography be it pre-mining, operation, or reclamation.

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The public notice discusses bonding numbers which may vary upon approval of SCA's permitting action; therefore, the dollar amounts will be revised at the appropriate time. With regards to SCA, the maps and some of the enclosed text addresses SCA as it was submitted during that permitting action. Hopefully, by the time this is reviewed, the SCA permitting action will be finalized.

PMC believes that it has assembled a complete phase I bond release application that adequately addresses the requirements for bond release. A timely review of this application and authorization to place the public notice in the newspaper would be most appreciated.

Furthermore, an onsite inspection within 30-days of acceptance of the application, or as soon thereafter as weather conditions permit, to inspect and evaluate the reclamation would also be most appreciated. PMC would also like to have the bottlenecks that have plagued current and previous bond release approvals addressed in a manner that is appropriate and takes into account the permittee's needs to reduce bonding expenses.

If the Division has any questions or needs additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (435) 472-4741.

Sincerely,



Johnny Pappas  
Sr. Environmental Engineer

Enclosures

# APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

Permit Change  New Permit  Renewal  Exploration  Bond Release  Transfer

**Permittee:** Plateau Mining Corporation

**Mine:** Star Point Mine

**Permit Number:** C/007/006

**Title:** Phase I Bond Release

**Description,** Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

Phase I requirements achieved and request for 60% bond reduction

**Instructions:** If you answer yes to any of the first eight (gray) questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

- Yes  No 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Disturbed Area: \_\_\_\_\_  increase  decrease.
- Yes  No 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes  No 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area?
- Yes  No 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved?
- Yes  No 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond?
- Yes  No 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication?
- Yes  No 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information?
- Yes  No 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling?
- Yes  No 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes  No 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?

*Explain:* \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes  No 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use?
- Yes  No 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2)
- Yes  No 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information?
- Yes  No 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area?
- Yes  No 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement?
- Yes  No 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities?
- Yes  No 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities?
- Yes  No 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures?
- Yes  No 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation?
- Yes  No 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring?
- Yes  No 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided?
- Yes  No 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream?
- Yes  No 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities?

**Please attach four (4) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit five (5) copies, thank you.** (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

JOHNNY PAPPAS  
Print Name

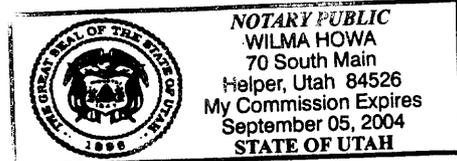
[Signature] - Sr. Env. Engineer - 11/04/03  
Sign Name, Position, Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of November, 2003

Wilma Howa  
Notary Public

My commission Expires: 9/5, 2004

Attest: State of Utah } ss:  
County of Carbon



**For Office Use Only:**

Assigned Tracking  
Number:

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# APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

## Detailed Schedule Of Changes to the Mining And Reclamation Plan

**Permittee:** Plateau Mining Corporation

**Mine:** Star Point Mine

**Permit Number:** C/007/006

**Title:** Phase I Bond Release

Provide a detailed listing of all changes to the Mining and Reclamation Plan, which is required as a result of this proposed permit application. Individually list all maps and drawings that are added, replaced, or removed from the plan. Include changes to the table of contents, section of the plan, or other information as needed to specifically locate, identify and revise the existing Mining and Reclamation Plan. Include page, section and drawing number as part of the description.

### DESCRIPTION OF MAP, TEXT, OR MATERIAL TO BE CHANGED

			DESCRIPTION OF MAP, TEXT, OR MATERIAL TO BE CHANGED
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200a
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200a1
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200a2
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200a3
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200b
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200c
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200d1
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200d2
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200d3
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200e1
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<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200g
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 542.200h
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 761a
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 761b
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 761c
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Map 761d
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Exhibit 117.200a; Proof of Publication - Affidavit of Publication to follow after publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Exhibit 412.200a; Land Owner and Governmental Agency letters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Exhibit 761c; As-Built Hydrology Calculation and Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Section 500; Pages 500-72, 500-76, 500-80, 500-81*, and 500-84*
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	Section 700; Pages 700-187 and 700-188
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	
<input type="checkbox"/> Add	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove	
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**Any other specific or special instruction required for insertion of this proposal into the Mining and Reclamation Plan.**

\*Included for textural consistency

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Plateau Mining Corporation  
Star Point Mine  
C/007/006

Phase I Bond Release on 95.3 acres of disturbed lands associated with the Star Point Mine

I hereby certify to the best of my information and belief that all applicable reclamation activities have been accomplished in accordance with the requirements of the Act, the regulatory program, and the approved reclamation plan.

JOHNNY PAPPAS  
Print Name

[Signature] - Sr. Env. Engineer - 11/04/03  
Sign Name, Position, Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2004

Wilma Howa  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9/5, 2004

Attest: State of Utah } ss:  
County of Carbon

