

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

June 3, 2008

JK

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DRH*
Dave Darby, Team Lead *DD*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Environmental Scientist III *W H W*

RE: Star Point Phase II Bond Release, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, C/007/0006, Task ID #2968

SUMMARY:

On May 1, 2008, the Permittee submitted an application to the Division for Phase II Bond Release at the Star Point Mine. Reclamation activities occurred as follows:

- 2000 reclamation began following permanent cessation, Mud Water and Corner Canyon remote portals were reclaimed.
- 2001 demolition and earthwork were done on 45 acres which include the Main Mine and the Unit Train Loadout.
- 2002 reclamation of the Lions Deck and Pond 1 area and Overland Conveyor and Main Channel Area were completed.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

RECLAMATION PLAN

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

General

The Permittee did not meet the general requirements for Phase II bond release. The Permittee must include:

- The Permittee must include a notarized statement stating that all the information in the bond release application is true and correct.
- Affidavit that the public notice was published.
- A map of the areas for which the Permittee is seeking bond release that shows the dates when reclamation was completed and the Division granted bond release.

Determination of Bond Amount

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of this section. The Permittee must update the reclamation cost estimate with 2008 unit costs and an escalation factor through 2011. The Division will provide the Permittee of an update.

Findings:

The information provided in the bond release application is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Before approval, the Permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-880.120, The Permittee must include affidavit that the public notice was published.

R645-301-880.130, The Permittee must include a notarized statement stating that all the information in the bond release application is true and correct.

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R645-301-542.100, The Permittee must include a map of the areas for which the Permittee is seeking bond release that shows the dates when reclamation was completed and the Division granted bond release.

R645-301-830.140, The Permittee must update the reclamation cost estimate with 2008 unit costs and an escalation factor through 2011. The Division will provide the Permittee of an update.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division should deny the application for bond release until all of the above mentioned deficiencies have been mentioned.