



A Subsidiary of Arch Western Resources LLC

STATE OF UTAH  
DEPARTMENT OF MINING

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Somerset, Colorado 81434  
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September 28, 2001

**Pamela Grubaugh-Littig**  
Permit Supervisor  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*J. Adams*  
e/007/016 - BR-01B  
Bond Release  
Phase I

**Re: Application for Partial Bond Release**  
**Gordon Creek No. 2/7/8 Mines**  
**ACT/007/016**  
**Carbon County, Utah**

**Dear Ms. Littig:**

**Mountain Coal Company has completed Phase I of the approved reclamation plan for the Gordon Creek No. 2/7/8 Mines. This is based upon the completion of backfilling, grading, topsoil replacement and drainage control in accordance with the approved plan.**

**In accordance with the provisions of R645-301-880, Mountain Coal Company is hereby applying for partial release of the performance bond. The present bond posted for this site is \$641,443.00. Mountain Coal Company is applying for release of 60% of the original bond, or \$384,865.00. This will leave an amount of \$256,578.00 to be held until Phase II Bond Release. The disturbed area for this site was 34.88 acres. The portion requested for Phase I Bond Release is 32.52 acres, which excludes the 2/7/8 Sediment Pond area of 1.63 acres and the Sweet's Pond area of 0.73 acres. The Sweet's Pond area has no reclamation costs associated with it, and a Final Bond Release for this area will be requested under separate application. It should be noted that the permit indicates a disturbed area of 20.30 acres. This number was generated from maps prior to reclamation. The actual disturbed acreage of 34.88 acres is based on actual survey data for the reclaimed minesite and pond areas.**

**All maps, plans and calculations for this reclamation phase have now been incorporated into the M.R.P., including the recently approved Permit Area Reduction. Two additional maps are submitted with this application solely for clarifying the requested bond release areas. Plate BR-1 shows the disturbed (bonded) area and the exclusion of the sediment ponds. Plate BR-2 shows the excluded Sweet's Pond area, along with the minesite.**

*Copies of letters for notification to land owners, agencies, and water companies in the area are enclosed. A copy of the newspaper advertisement to be placed along with submittal of this application is also enclosed. This advertisement will run for four consecutive weeks in the local area paper. Proof of publication will be forwarded to you upon receipt.*

*It is our hope this application will meet with your approval. If you have any questions, or need any further information, please let me know.*

*Respectfully,*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Hansen".

**Chris Hansen  
Project Manager**

**Encl.**

**cc: Phil Schmidt  
Dan Guy  
File**