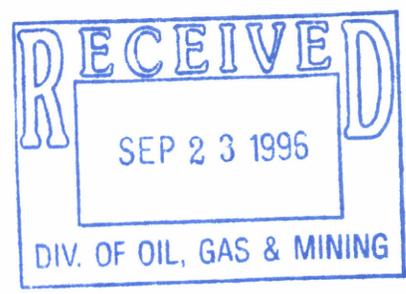


Incoming  
COO70017  
OK



**Mountain Coal Company**  
West Elk Mine  
Post Office Box 591  
Somerset, Colorado 81434  
Telephone 303 929-5015



September 16, 1996

Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*Original to #2*

Re: Application for Final Bond Release  
Gordon Creek No. 3 & 6 Mines  
INA/007/017  
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Wright:

Mountain Coal Company has completed Phase III of its approved reclamation plan for the Gordon Creek No. 3 & 6 Mines. This is based upon the establishment of revegetation and sediment control in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, with a minimum period of 10 years following reclamation.

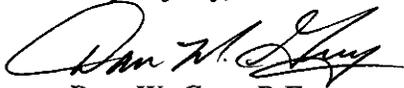
In accordance with the provisions of R645-301-880 of the Utah Coal Mining Reclamation Act, this letter will serve as notification that Mountain Coal Company intends to file an application with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining for final release of the performance bond.

The original bond posted for this property was \$346,000.00, of which \$207,600.00 (60%) was released on June 26, 1987 upon approval of Phase I Bond Release. An additional \$85,429.00 was released on January 9, 1995. The present bond posted for this site is \$52,971.00. Mountain Coal Company is applying for release of the remaining portion of the bond, or \$52,971.00.

September 16, 1996  
Page 2

*If you have any questions, or need any further information, please contact me.*

*Respectfully,*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan W. Guy".

*Dan W. Guy, P.E.  
for Paige B. Beville*

*cc: Paige Beville  
File*