



Western States Minerals Corp.

250 South Rock Blvd., Suite. 130
Reno, NV. 89502

September 15, 1999

Mr. Brent Bradford, Deputy Director
Department of Environmental Quality - Utah
P.O. Box 148810
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4810

RE: Notice of intent to seek Phase II and III bond release at reclaimed J.B.King minesite, Permit # ACT/015/002, Emery Co., Utah

Dear Mr. Bradford:

This letter is written to notify you, as surface and subsurface owners, of our intent to seek Phase II and Phase III bond release at our reclaimed J.B. King minesite, located in Emery County, UT. A Public Notice of this intent is currently being advertised in the Emery County Progress. This advertisement commenced on September 7, 1999 and will be completed on September 28, 1999. This reclaimed coal mine site has been in the reclamation monitoring phase since 1986. The original permit was issued in 1985 and Phase I of the Reclamation Plan was completed in 1986. The Phase I portion of the performance bond was petitioned for and released at that time. The site is now ready for Phase II and III bond release. This current application for bond release is based primarily upon the successful re-establishment of vegetation (e.g. as assessed by vegetation performance monitoring) and achievement of erosional stability throughout the site (e.g. to the extent possible); which is in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. It also meets all other provisions of the approved reclamation plan and permit. In accordance with the provisions of R645-301-880, of the Utah Coal Mining Rules, notice is hereby given to the general public that WSMC is applying for full release of its remaining performance bond which amounts to \$126,078.00.

The reclaimed J.B. King Mine is located approximately 6 miles east of Fremont Junction (e.g. intersection of Hwy I-70 and UT. State Hwy 10). The following is a legal description of the permit area: Township 23 South, Range 6 East, SLBM, Utah and includes portions of the SW1/4NW1/4, SE1/4NW1/4, and NE1/4SW1/4 of Section 32. The permit area is located to the east side of the Dog Valley Wash, which is shown on the Walker Flat, Utah, U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle map. No State or Federal Coal leases are currently held by WSMC. The entire reclamation work was completed on approximately 32.4 acres (e.g. which is a portion of the land currently held by a Utah School & Institutional Trust Lands grazing lease # GP-22743.0 99), and that constitutes the currently bonded acreage.

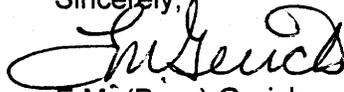
The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining is being asked to evaluate this request to determine whether it meets all the criteria of the Permanent Program Performance Standards

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according to the requirements of the Utah Coal Mining Rules. Upon completion of that evaluation, a decision will be made as to approval or disapproval of this application. The Reclamation plan is available for public review at the offices of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, Salt Lake City, UT. 84114-5801. Written comments, objections, and requests for public hearing or informal conference on this request may be addressed to the Utah Coal Regulatory Program Staff at the Salt Lake City, UT., address listed previously.

If you, or any of your staff, have questions concerning this proposed action, please call me at (775) 856-3339 or the Utah Coal Regulatory Program staff at (801) 538-5268, and we will try to assist you.

Sincerely,



E.M. (Buzz) Gerick
Vice President of Operations

Cc: DOGM, SLC, UT.
WSMC-Wheat Ridge, CO.
J.B. King file