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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 5, 1997

Paige B. Beville, Manager
Environmental, Health and Safety
ARCO Coal Company
555 17th Street, Room 2170
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Phase III Bond Release Status, Mountain Coal Company, Huntington #4 Mine,
ACT/015/004, Folder #3, Emery County, Utah

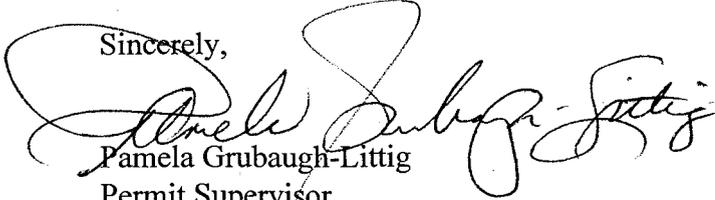
Dear Ms. Beville:

The Division has reviewed the Phase III bond release application (submitted April 2, 1996) and subsequent submittal (March 20, 1997) for Huntington #4 Mine. A bond release inspection was conducted June 27, 1996.

The sediment pond which was under a Forest Service Special Use Permit was removed in the summer of 1995 and the area seeded. At the time of the June 27, 1996 site inspection this seeded area had not been established and did not look like the surrounding area. Although the reseeded area of sediment pond removal does not have to meet the ten-year liability period, it does need to meet other standards of being diverse, effective and permanent.

Therefore, the bond may not be released until vegetation establishment at the sediment pond is reassessed. An assessment should be scheduled with the Division and Forest Service to reevaluate vegetation establishment at the sediment pond. Please contact me in this regard at your convenience.

Sincerely,


Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

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cc: Jeff DeFreest, FS, Price
Susan White

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