

Public Notice – Application #SL10

Pursuant to A.R.M. 17.24.1112, notice is hereby given that Big Sky Coal Company, with its offices located in St. Louis, Missouri, has filed Application #SL10 for Bond Release for Big Sky Mine Area A, Colstrip, Montana, under the Montana Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act and Permanent Regulatory Program. Permit No. C1983004CR was originally issued in November 15, 1983. The current total bond amount is \$1,269,724 and a reduction of \$827,724 plus liability is being sought for this release. This request for Phase I, II, III, and IV bond release is for plugging of drill holes, backfilling, regrading, drainage construction, soil replacement, noxious weed control, revegetation, stabilization, restoration of wildlife habitats and values, reestablishment of the hydrologic balance, replacement of water sources, and all other reclamation requirements. All reclamation was completed on these areas in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and applicable responsibility periods are satisfied.

The area, containing approximately 946 acres for which partial release is requested, is located in portions of the following sections in Rosebud County:

Township 1 North, Range 41 East, M.P.M.

Portions of Sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 28

The application is available for inspection at the Department of Environmental Quality offices in Helena (1218 East 6th Avenue), and Billings (1371 Rimtop Drive, Building IP-9, Airport Industrial Park). Electronic copies of the application may be requested by visiting the website <http://deq.mt.gov/Public/ea/coal> or by emailing DEQCoal@mt.gov.

Written comments, objections and/or requests for informal conference on this application may be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality, Coal and Uranium Program, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or electronically at <http://svc.mt.gov/deq/publiccomment/> within 30 days of the final publication of this notice.