



October 26, 2016

Sent via electronic mail

Michael J. Lincoln
Otter Creek Coal, LLC
1 City Place Drive, Ste 300
St. Louis, MO 63141

Permit ID: X2011334
Revision Type: Bond Release
Permitting Action: Deficiency
Subject: Completeness Deficiency; Bond Release Application #SL1

Dear Mike:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) reviewed Bond Release Application #SL1, for full bond release on 111 drill holes, to determine if all the appropriate rules have been addressed. The following deficiency must be addressed before the application can be ruled complete:

- Per Administrative Rule of Montana (ARM) 17.24.1017(2)(b), the bond release application must include notification letters to surface owners. The bond release application included letters addressed to the following surface owners: Ark Land Company, Great Northern Properties, and Mr. Ross Denson. According to Montana Cadastral information obtained online (cadastral.mt.gov), the USDA Forest Service owns the East ½ of Section 14, containing several drill holes. Please include them in your notification.
- Also, while surface owners Consol Mining (portions of Sections 9, 10, 15, 22) and Thomas & Sandy Thane (portion of Section 27) have no drill holes on their property, it is possible that DEQ inspectors will traverse their property in order to reach drill hole locations on adjacent property. Therefore, DEQ requests that Consol Mining and Thomas & Sandy Thane be included in the notification process.

Addresses for the additional notifications were obtained from Montana Cadastral are listed below. You are encouraged to double check this information against your most current surface ownership records.

USDA Forest Service
1310 Main Street
Billings, MT 59105-1786

Consol Mining Co. LLC

October 26, 2016

Page 2 of 2

1000 Consol Energy Dr.
Canonsburg, PA 15317-6506

Thomas & Sandy Thane
79 Otter Creek Road
Ashland, MT 59003-9412

Upon receipt of acceptable response to this deficiency, DEQ will determine the application to be complete.

Please contact me at the number below if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa Sjolund".

Melissa Sjolund, Technical Coordinator
Coal Section
Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau
Ph: 406.444.2885
Fax: 406.444.4988
Email: msjolund@mt.gov

FC: X2011334

Gilbert, Sharona

From: Gilbert, Sharona
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 11:44 AM
To: mlincoln@archcoal.com
Cc: DEQCoal
Subject: X2011334 SL1 Deficiency
Attachments: SL1_Prospect_CompletenessDeficiency_10-26-16.pdf

Please see attached electronic correspondence. Have a great day!

Sharona Gilbert

Administrative Assistant
Coal Section
Coal and Opencut Mining Bureau
Ph: 444-4966
Fax: 444-4988

*The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men,
Gang aft agley ~Robert Burns*