



January 7, 2016

*Sent via electronic mail*

Ms. Dicki Peterson  
Western Energy Company  
Rosebud Coal Mine Area A  
P.O. Box 99  
138 Rosebud Lane  
Colstrip, MT 59323-0099

Permit ID: C1986003A  
Revision Type: Bond Release  
Permitting Action: Deficiency  
Subject: Acceptability Deficiency for Bond Release Application #SL14, Final Bond Release

Dear Dicki:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has identified an additional deficiency related to Bond Release Application #SL14. Monitoring well WS-100, located approximately 1,000 feet from the east boundary of Area A, has had three samples (2009-2014) that exceed the nitrite-nitrate human health standard of 10 mg/L. Possible sources are mining, agriculture, or another unidentified source.

A stipulation of the December 4, 2015, approval of Area B amendment AM4 requires expanded monitoring with the expectation that a well will be installed down gradient of WS-100 to monitor for potential movement of nitrate toward the permit boundary. Bond release application #SL14 will remain deficient until the additional monitoring data can be used to determine the source and extent of the elevated nitrite-nitrate.

Please feel free to contact me with questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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

Melissa Sjolund, Technical Coordinator  
Coal and Uranium Program  
Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau  
Ph: 406.444.2885/Fax: 406.444.4988  
Email: Msjolund@mt.gov

C: Jeff Fleischman, OSM  
Lauren Mitchell, OSM

FC: 620.1031 (SL14)

## Gilbert, Sharona

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**From:** Gilbert, Sharona  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 07, 2016 2:07 PM  
**To:** Peterson, Dicki  
**Cc:** jfleischman@osmre.gov; lmittchell2@osmre.gov; Bartlett, Franklin P (fbartlett@osmre.gov); Giovetti, Debbie (dgiovetti@osmre.gov); mcalle@osmre.gov; DEQCoal  
**Subject:** C1986003A SL14 2nd Deficiency  
**Attachments:** SL14\_Acceptability\_Deficiencypt2\_01-07-16.pdf

Please see attached electronic correspondence. Have a great day!

### Sharona Gilbert

Administrative Assistant  
Coal & Uranium Program  
Industrial & Energy Minerals Bureau  
Ph: 444-4966  
Fax: 444-4988

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