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FILE NAME:	East Decker C1983007 SL10 - Bond Release Application.pdf
SENT TO:	DEQCoal@mt.gov
SENT FROM:	Sabrina Temple (s.temple@deckercoal.com)
MESSAGE:	Please see the attached SL10 Bond Release Package for East Decker Mine.

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EAST DECKER SL10 BOND RELEASE APPLICATION

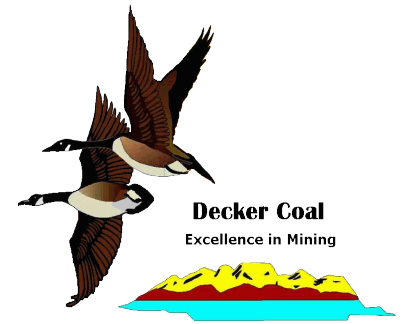
East Decker Mine

Permit C1983007

May 2026

May 12, 2026

Ms. Emily Lodman
Department of Environmental Quality
Mining Bureau
2401 Colonial Drive
Helena, MT 59601



Permit ID: C1983007
Subject: SL10 Bond Release Application

Emily:

Enclosed please find an application for 360 acres of Phase III Bond Release in the East Pits of Decker Coal Company. The documents include a bond release application, a copy of the Public Notice, a copy of the letter that will be sent to adjacent landowners, the calculations of bond release values, Phase III Bond Release Revegetation Monitoring Report, and Maps with details of the Phase III Bond Release Area.

Please call or email if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sabrina Temple", written over a horizontal line.

Sabrina Temple
Permit Coordinator
Email: s.temple@deckercoal.com
Phone: (406) 300-0929

Coal Section, Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Bond Release Form
(Updated July 2025)

This application form is for bond release pertaining to Phases I, II, III, IV and/or Undisturbed acres.

Per Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.24.1111(2), applications must be filed at times or seasons that allow the department to evaluate properly the reclamation operations alleged to have been completed.

SECTION A – APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Site Name: East Decker
Permit Number: C1983007
Date Permit Approved: 6/23/1983
- Name of Applicant: Decker Coal Company
Address: 12 Lakeshore Drive
City: Decker State: MT Zip Code: 59025
Office Phone: 406-757-2600 Fax: _____

SECTION B – BOND RELEASE INFORMATION

1.

Name of Bonding Agent	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Bond No(s)
Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland	600 Red Brook Blvd	Owing Mills	MD	21117	9062353
Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company	605 Highway 169 North, Suite 800	Plymouth	MN	55441	800034462
Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company	605 Highway 169 North, Suite 800	Plymouth	MN	55441	800010582
Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland	600 Red Brook Blvd	Owing Mills	MD	21117	9261707

- Current bond amount held by DEQ: \$80,300,000.00
- Total amount of bond requested for release: \$300,000.00
- The type and appropriate dates of reclamation work performed; Prior to and during 2025

5. A description of the results achieved as they relate to the permittee's approved reclamation plan; Reclamation Phase III (ARM 17.24.1116(6)(c)) is deemed to have been completed when: the minimum period of responsibility for reestablishing vegetation of ten (10) growing seasons has elapsed and the post mining land use are met. Based on monitoring completed within the Phase III bond release areas at East Decker, DCC is convinced that these areas meet the requirements of the approved reclamation plan for Phase III bond release.

6. Legal Description of Bond Release Area: T9S, R40E, Sects 11,12, 13, and 14

7. Bond Release Phases

Phase	Acres <i>*no decimals</i>	Dollar Amount Requested
Phase I: (Defined in ARM 17.24.1116(6)(a))	0	\$0.00
Phase II: (Defined in ARM 17.24.1116(6)(b))	0	\$0.00
Phase III: (Defined in ARM 17.24.1116(6)(c))	360	\$300,000.00
Phase IV: (Defined in ARM 17.24.1116(6)(d))	0	\$0.00
Undisturbed Acres	0	\$0.00

8. Breakdown of Final Bond Release Acres

(Only applies to Phase IV, Undisturbed, or Pre-1989 Phase III)

	Permit Acreage Mineral	Permit Acreage Surface
Federal:	0	0
Tribal:	0	0
State:	0	0
Private:	0	0
County:	0	0
Total:	0	0

9. In addition, as part of any bond application, the permittee shall submit copies of letters that the permittee has sent to adjoining property owners, local governmental bodies, planning agencies, and sewage and water treatment authorities or water companies in the locality of the operation, notifying them of the permittee's intention to seek release from the bond. Please indicate the letters included in the application:

- a. ☒ Adjoining landowners (this should include all landowners for the entire permitted area as well as any landowner adjacent to the permit boundary per 84-4-232(6)(a), MCA)
- b. ☒ Local governmental bodies
- c. ☐ Planning agencies
 - i. ☐ Check here if N/A
 - ii. ☒ Check here if covered under local governmental bodies
- d. ☐ Sewage and water treatment authorities or water companies in locality of operation
 - i. ☒ Check here if N/A
 - ii. ☐ Check here if covered under local governmental bodies

- e. Include addresses in letters or a table/list of addresses as applicable. Use the example spreadsheet or incorporate a similar format within the application.

SECTION C – CERTIFICATION *MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH DESIGNATION OF PERMIT COORDINATOR

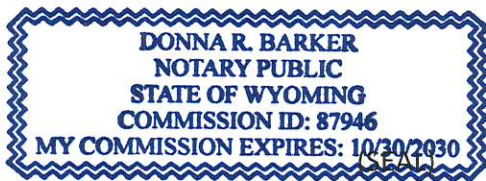
Pursuant to ARM 17.24.1111(4), I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the materials and information contained in this application are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Wyoming this day of May 12, 2026.



Donna R Barker

Notary Public for the State of: _____

Residing at: _____

My Commission expires: _____

Wyoming

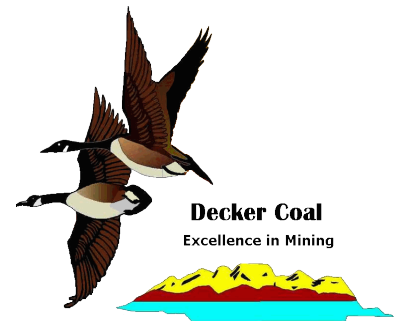
Sheridan

10/30/2030

Attachment 1

Landowner Letter

May 12, 2026



Dear Company, Organization, Surface Owner or Adjoining Land Owner: Notice is hereby given that Decker Coal Company LLC owned by Lighthouse Resources Inc. has filed a request for partial bond release of the East pits under the Montana Strip and Underground Mine Reclamation Act and Permanent Regulatory Program. Pursuant to the Act, Decker Coal Company has requested partial bond release on the following:

Permit # C1983007 – Last renewed on June 23 rd , 2018	
Reclamation Bond Total Amount – \$80,300,000	
Current Permitted Acres	4,361
Phase III Acres Requesting Release	360
Release Amount	\$300,000

All soil replacement has been completed in accordance with a reclamation plan approved by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

The area for which partial bond release is requested is located near the town of Decker, Montana within portions of the following legal description in Township 9 South, Range 40 East, of Big Horn County, Montana:

T9S, R40E Sections: 11,12,13, and 14

An electronic copy of the application is available for inspection on the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Coal Section's website or can be requested 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 Section, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or by emailing DEQCoal@mt.gov within 30 days of the final publication of this notice.

Sabrina Temple
Permit Coordinator
Email: s.temple@deckercoal.com
Phone: (406) 300-0929

Attachment 2

Public Notice

Bond Release Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that Decker Coal Company owned by Lighthouse Resources Inc., with its offices located at: 12 Lakeshore Drive, Decker, MT 59025 has filed an application with the Coal Section, Mining Bureau of the Department of Environmental Quality for bond release SL10 of East Decker Mine, Permit # C1983007, which was originally permitted OR last renewed on June 23rd, 2018.

The proposed bond release area containing 360 Acres of Phase III is located in Big Horn County, Montana. The general legal description of the area is as follows:

Township 9 South, Range 40 East, of Big Horn County, Montana:

T9S, R40E Sections: 11,12, 13, and 14

The total bond amount for East Decker Mine is \$80,300,000 and a release of \$300,000 is being sought.

All revegetation was completed prior to 2026 in accordance with the approved plan.

An electronic copy of the application is available for inspection on the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Coal Section's website or can be requested 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 Section, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 or by emailing DEQCoal@mt.gov within 30 days of the final publication of this notice.

Attachment 3

Bond Release Value

DECKER COAL COMPANY East Pits Permit No. C1983007**SL10 East Bond Release Value Calculation**

SL10 East Bond Release Phase III Value per Acre Calculation		Acres Disturbed 2024 Annual Report	Acres With Phase III Bond Release 2025	Acres of Phase III Revegetation Remaining
Phase III		2,815	0	2,815
Total Grading Costs From MR115 Annual Bond Calculation				
	Revegetation Cost			\$1,811,575
	Indirect Cost @ 20%			\$362,315
	Total Revegetation Cost			\$2,173,890
SL10 E Phase III Value Per Acre				\$ 772
Phase III Acres Proposed for Release with SL10 E Application		(See SL10_E Bond Release Map)		360
Total SL10 E Phase III Calculated Release				\$ 300,000

Appendices

Appendix A

Phase III Bond Release Revegetation Monitoring Report, East Decker Mine, 2023 – 2024

Appendix B

Excel List For Landowners



Legend

- Permit Boundary
- Disturbance Limit
- Phase III Bond Release Area
- Pending Phase II Bond Release
- 2023 Sample Plot
- 2023 Sample Transect
- 2024 Sample Plot
- 2024 Sample Transect

Land Use

- Grazing Land
- Pastureland

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Features (WHEF)

- Rock Outcrop
- WHEF Area of Influence

Aerial: 2023 NAIP

Scale 1" = 600'

Decker Coal Company
12 Lakeshore Drive
PO Box 12
Decker, MT 59025
406-757-2561

**East Decker
2023-2024 Phase III
Bond Release Locations**

WESTECH
ENVIRONMENTAL

DCC26_Phase_III_2023-2025.dwg | 05/11/25 | 1"=600'

Exhibit 1