



June 25, 2026

Emily Lodman
Coal Section, Coal Section Supervisor
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 East Sixth Ave
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620

Permit ID: X2012339

Revision Type: N/A

Permitting Action: Transfer

Subject: Permit Transfer from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC.

Dear Emily:

Attached to this letter is the *Permit Transfer Form* needed to transfer Prospecting Permit X2012339 from Westmoreland Resources, Inc. to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC for the purpose of eventually releasing it from bond. The area within the permit is summarized below:

T.1N, R.38E	T.1S, R.38E	T. 1S, R.39E
Section 3 – All	Section 1 – All	Section 6 – All
Section 4 – All	Section 2 – All	
Section 9 – All		
Section 10 – All		
Section 14 – All		
Section 15 – All		
Section 16 – All		
Section 21 – All		
Section 22 – All		
Section 23 – All		
Section 24 – All		
Section 25 – All		
Section 26 – All		
Section 27 – All		
Section 28 – All		
Section 33 – All		
Section 34 – All		
Section 35 – All		
Section 36 – All		



Feel free to contact me with any questions. Also, feel free to contact Noelle Boyer directly at (720) 440-6369 or via email at NBoyer@westmoreland.com with any permitting related questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Environmental Engineer
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
Phone: (406) 740-0242
Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com

Gilbert, Sharona

From: Boyer, Noelle <NBoyer@westmoreland.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 12:12 PM
To: DEQ AEMD Coal
Cc: Lodman, Emily; Gilbert, Sharona
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Westmoreland Resources Inc. Prospector Permit X2012339
Attachments: Prospecting Permit X2012339 Transfer.pdf; ProspectingTransferForm (002) 062526.pdf
Categories: Orange Category

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached Westmoreland Absaloka Mining Prospecting permit transfer form and Cover letter.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Noelle



Westmoreland Mining LLC

Noelle Boyer, *Permitting and Regulatory Compliance Analyst*

10375 Park Meadows Drive Suite 400, Lone Tree, CO 80124

Direct: 720-440-6369

Employee Email: NBoyer@westmoreland.com | Website: www.westmoreland.com [link.shetrk.com] [lc3.shetrk.com]

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Coal Section Prospecting Transfer Form

This application form is pursuant to Title 82, Chapter 4, Part 2, Montana Code Annotated (MCA) requiring permits for mining coal and uranium and Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.24.1003.

The applicant agrees to:

1. Submit monthly progress reports as required for each successive 30-day period no later than the 15th of the following month. *(Note: monthly reports do not need to be submitted for 30-day periods of inactivity)*
2. Submit annual progress reports as required in accordance with 82-4-226 and 82-4-237 MCA for all activities conducted during the report year.
3. Promptly reclaim the disturbed acreage as outlined in the prospecting reclamation plan.

Attach any support documents that are referenced in this application and check the appropriate boxes below to indicate those attached.

1. ☒ Designation of Permit Coordinator
2. ☐ Assignment Form
3. ☐ Copies of documents upon which the applicant bases its legal right to prospect
4. ☐ Documentation that the owners of the land affected have been notified and understand that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) must make investigation and inspections necessary to ensure compliance with the Act as well as the current mailing address and phone number of each affected landowner
5. ☐ Maps *(see rules and regulations)*
6. ☒ Bond *(see rules and regulations)*
7. ☐ Other *(Please describe):* _____

SECTION A – APPLICANT INFORMATION

A1.

1. Permit ID Number: [X2012339](#)
Mineral to be prospected: [Coal](#)
Site Name: [East Fork](#)
2. Name of Assignor *(Current Permittee)*: [Westmoreland Resources, Inc.](#)
Address: [P.O. Box 449](#)
City: [Hardin](#) State: [MT](#) Zip Code: [59034](#)
Office Phone: [\(406\) 740-0242](#) Fax: [N/A](#)
3. Name of Assignee: [Westmoreland Absaloka Mining](#)
Address: [P.O. Box 449](#)
City: [Hardin](#) State: [MT](#) Zip Code: [59034](#)
Office Phone: [\(406\) 740-0242](#) Fax: [N/A](#)

4. Name of Resident Agent: [Corporation Services Company](#)
Address: [26 W. Sixth St.](#)
City: [Helena](#) State: [MT](#) Zip Code: [59624-1691](#)
Office Phone: [\(800\) 927-9800](#) Cell: [N/A](#) Fax: [N/A](#) Email: [cscglobal.com](#)

5. Legal Description of Prospecting Area: [Summarized in Cover Letter](#)
County: [Big Horn](#)

6.

Acreage to be Permitted	Permit Acreage Mineral	Permit Acreage Surface
Federal:	6,234.4	163.9
Tribal:	0	0
State:	500	500
Private:	5,051.1	11,121.6
County:	0	0
Total:	11,785.5	11,785.5

**use whole numbers-no decimal points*

7.

Prospecting Data	
Sites:	28
Sites Disturbed:	0
Holes Drilled:	56
Mud/Disposal Pits:	0
Road Improvements:	0
Road Construction:	0
Pad Construction:	0

8. Expected date of commencement: [December 10, 2012](#)

9. Expected date of completion: [January 10, 2013](#)

SECTION B - CERTIFICATION *MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH DESIGNATION OF PERMIT COORDINATOR

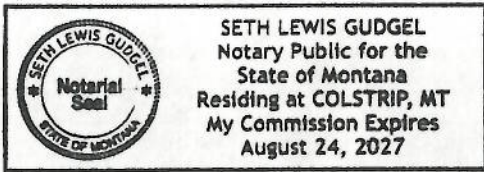
I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the materials and information contained in this application are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: JESSE NOEL, P.E.

Title: SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

Date: 6-23-26

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of this 23rd day of June, 2026.



(SEAL)

Seth Gudgel
Notary Public for the State of: _____
Residing at: _____
My Commission expires: _____



July 8, 2026

Emily Lodman
Coal Section, Coal Section Supervisor
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 East Sixth Ave
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620

Permit ID: X2012339

Revision Type: N/A

Permitting Action: Transfer-Response #1 to Deficiencies

Subject: Permit Transfer from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC.

Dear Emily:

The following is in response to your deficiency letter dated July 2, 2026:

82-4-226(8)(e), MCA: A draft public notice detailing the transfer. The public notice must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality for one time. See the example below.

Rule: 82-4-226(8)(e), MCA: Upon receipt of the department's determination of preliminary acceptability, the applicant shall place an advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality of the proposed prospecting. The notice must describe the application and a place in the locality where the public may examine the application and must notify the public that it may submit written comments by delivering or mailing them to the department within 10 days following publication of the notice.

Response: The draft public notice, as written by the Department, will be published in the Bighorn County Newspaper from July 15th through July 21st.

ARM 17.24.1001(2)(m): Box 4, documentation that the owners of the land affected have been notified and understand that DEQ must make investigations and inspections necessary to ensure compliance with the Act and the current mailing address and phone number of each affected landowner, was not checked. Please include this documentation with the transfer.

Rule: ARM 17.24.1001(2)(m) documentation that the owners of the land affected have been notified and understand that the department must make investigations and inspections necessary to ensure compliance with the Act, applicable rules, and permit conditions;

Response: A copy of the letters sent to the landowners is attached to this letter including address and phone numbers.

ARM 17.24.1003(3)(a)(iii): Please supply a bond for \$15,600.

Rule: ARM 17.24.1003(3)(a)(iii) providing sufficient bond to cover the original permit in its entirety from inception to completion of reclamation operations; and

Response: A bond in the amount of \$15,600 will be supplied to the Department.



Feel free to contact me with any questions. Also, feel free to contact Noelle Boyer directly at (720) 440-6369 or via email at NBoyer@westmoreland.com with any permitting related questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Environmental Engineer
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
Phone: (406) 740-0242
Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com

Gilbert, Sharona

From: Lodman, Emily
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 10:36 AM
To: DEQ AEMD Coal
Subject: FW: Prospecting Permit Transfer Documents-Absaloka
Attachments: Landowner Letter Combined 070726.pdf; Prospecting Permit X2012339 Transfer-Response #1 070726.pdf

Thank you,



Emily Lodman | Supervisor
Coal Section, Mining Bureau
Montana Department of Environmental Quality
DESK: 406-444-2873
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)
How did we do? Let us know here: [Feedback Survey](#)

From: Boyer, Noelle <NBoyer@westmoreland.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 10:31 AM
To: Lodman, Emily <Elodman@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Prospecting Permit Transfer Documents-Absaloka



Westmoreland Mining LLC

Noelle Boyer, *Permitting and Regulatory Compliance Analyst*

10375 Park Meadows Drive Suite 400, Lone Tree, CO 80124

Direct: 720-440-6369

Employee Email: NBoyer@westmoreland.com | Website: www.westmoreland.com [link.shetrk.com] [lc3.shetrk.com]

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From: Boyer, Noelle
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 2:12 PM
To: DEQCoal <deqcoal@mt.gov>
Cc: Emily Lodman <elodman@mt.gov>; Gilbert, Sharona <sgilbert2@mt.gov>
Subject: Prospecting Permit Transfer Documents-Absaloka

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached Prospecting Permit X2012339 transfer request. I have also requested a new bond from our Surety AON.

Let me know if you have any questions,

Noelle



Westmoreland Mining LLC

Noelle Boyer, *Permitting and Regulatory Compliance Analyst*

10375 Park Meadows Drive Suite 400, Lone Tree, CO 80124

Direct: 720-440-6369

Employee Email: NBoyer@westmoreland.com | Website: www.westmoreland.com [link.shetrk.com]
[lc3.shetrk.com]

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July 7, 2026

Walter Sarpy Creek Farm Inc.
1104 28th Street West
Billings, MT 59102
(406) 860-3576

To Whom it May Concern,

Pursuant to the Montana Strip and Underground Reclamation Act, notice is hereby given that Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC, mailing address of P.O. Box 449 Hardin, MT 59034, has filed an application for Transfer of Coal Prospecting Permit X2012339 with the Coal Section of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The permit is to be transferred from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC. A transfer is required because total ownership and control has changed. This permit is expired; no additional prospecting can occur under the permit, but reclamation activities can still occur, and a bond remains in place until final bond release.

The prospecting area is near Hardin, Montana. The general legal description of the permit area is as follows:

T1N, R38E	Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36
T1S, R38E	Sections 1, 2
T1S, R39E	Section 6

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Manager, Environmental
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
Phone: (406) 740-0242
Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com



July 7, 2026

Bureau of Land Management
PO Box 36800
Billings, MT 59107-6800
(406) 896-5013

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Pursuant to the Montana Strip and Underground Reclamation Act, notice is hereby given that Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC, mailing address of P.O. Box 449 Hardin, MT 59034, has filed an application for Transfer of Coal Prospecting Permit X2012339 with the Coal Section of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The permit is to be transferred from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC. A transfer is required because total ownership and control has changed. This permit is expired; no additional prospecting can occur under the permit, but reclamation activities can still occur, and a bond remains in place until final bond release.

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T1S, R39E	Section 6

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Noel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Manager, Environmental
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
Phone: (406) 740-0242
Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com



July 7, 2026

Booth Land & Livestock
PO Box 72
Lucerne, CO 80646
(970) 353-7055

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Pursuant to the Montana Strip and Underground Reclamation Act, notice is hereby given that Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC, mailing address of P.O. Box 449 Hardin, MT 59034, has filed an application for Transfer of Coal Prospecting Permit X2012339 with the Coal Section of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The permit is to be transferred from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC. A transfer is required because total ownership and control has changed. This permit is expired; no additional prospecting can occur under the permit, but reclamation activities can still occur, and a bond remains in place until final bond release.

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Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Manager, Environmental
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
Phone: (406) 740-0242
Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com



July 7, 2026

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Trust Land Management Division
PO Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620-1601
(406) 444-5499

To Whom it May Concern,

Pursuant to the Montana Strip and Underground Reclamation Act, notice is hereby given that Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC, mailing address of P.O. Box 449 Hardin, MT 59034, has filed an application for Transfer of Coal Prospecting Permit X2012339 with the Coal Section of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The permit is to be transferred from Westmoreland Resources, Inc., to Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC. A transfer is required because total ownership and control has changed. This permit is expired; no additional prospecting can occur under the permit, but reclamation activities can still occur, and a bond remains in place until final bond release.

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Jesse Noel, P.E.
Senior Manager, Environmental
Westmoreland Absaloka Mining, LLC
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Email: jnoel@westmoreland.com