



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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June 20, 2006

Mr. Willis Gainer, Acting Director
Casper Field Office
Office of Surface Mining
PO Box 11018
Casper, WY 82602-5004

Dear Mr. Gainer:

Enclosed is a completed Form 424 to extend North Dakota's 2006 Administrative and Enforcement Grant (GR503383) an additional fifteen days, until July 15, 2006. The primary reasons for extending the grant are due to the retirement of the Reclamation Division's Assistant Director in April, some other costs were less than anticipated in the grant budget, and the federal share of permit fees we have received during this grant period. With the fifteen day extension, we should expend nearly all of the \$501,284 grant award, plus the Federal share of the permit fees.

As a result of this extension of the 2006 A & E grant, the \$533,659 that OSM allocated for our 2007 A & E grant will be sufficient to fully operate the coal regulatory program for the eleven and one-half month period. The new grant period should begin July 16, 2006 and end June 30, 2007.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosure

cc: Frank Atencio
Harv Gloe

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