



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

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January 5, 2009

Mr. Jeff Fleischman, Director
OSM Casper Field Office
PO Box 11018
Casper, WY 82602-5004

Dear Mr. Fleischman:

The ND Public Service Commission is requesting a letter of concurrence for the approval of Bond Release No. 6 to Permit BCGH-8204 held by Basin Cooperative Services (BCS) at the Glenharold Mine. BCS has requested final bond release on 20 tracts of land totaling 1,759.81 acres located in Oliver and Mercer Counties. Tracts 1, 3, 4, 7, 14, 15 and parts of Tracts 10 and 19 contain federal coal. Portions of Tracts 1, 4, 14 and 15 were mined and acreage in the remainder of the federal coal tracts were affected by associated disturbance. The reclaimed tracts have a post-mine land use of native grassland (708.4 ac.), cropland (28.52 ac.), hayland (120.77 ac.), woodlands (75.22 ac.), developed water resources (9.5 ac.), industrial (1.14 ac.), fish and wildlife habitat grassland (0.55 ac.) and undisturbed land (815.71 ac.).

The bond release inspection was conducted on October 5th and 8th of 2007. Jon Sieving inspected the bond release areas on October 3, 2007. A copy of that inspection report is on file with this office.

We plan to recommend Commission approval of this bond release in the next few weeks. We are requesting your letter of concurrence for this bond release at your earliest convenience. A copy of the bond release application was mailed to your office on September 24, 2007. A few minor changes have been made to the original application. Attached is a copy of the revised bond release application.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosure

