



# Public Service Commission

## State of North Dakota

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June 25, 2009

Mr. Jeffrey Fleischman  
Director  
OSM Casper Field Office  
PO Box 11018  
150 East B Street - Room 1018  
Casper, WY 82602-5004

Dear Mr. Fleischman:

The Reclamation Division has received Partial Bond Release Application No. 3 for Surface Coal Mining Permit NAFK-9601 at the Falkirk Mine. The bond release request is for grading and respreading of topsoil and subsoil only. No vegetative analyses are required for this bond release. The bond release application involves 614.6 acres of land reclaimed as cropland (hayland) and a wetland. This bond release application contains acreage where federal coal was mined; therefore, OSM concurrence will be needed on those tracts that contained federal coal.

We will be scheduling a field inspection of the bond release tracts for July 6, 2009. Staff from your office made an oversight visit to North Dakota in mid June and inspected the area at that time.

A copy of the bond release application is enclosed. Please review and notify us of any concerns and/or your concurrence for approval.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch  
Director  
Reclamation Division