



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Cramer
Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept 408
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480
Web: www.nd.gov/psc
E-mail: ndpsc@nd.gov
Phone 701-328-2400
Toll Free 1-877-245-6685
Fax 701-328-2410
TDD 800-366-6888 or 711

October 27, 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:

In June, the Reclamation Division received Partial Bond Release Application No. 3 for Surface Coal Mining Permit NAFK-9601 at the Falkirk Mining Company's Falkirk Mine. The bond release application for portions of Sections 25 and 36, T146N, R82W and Sections 30 and 31, T146N, R81W in McLean County involves approximately 614.6 acres of land. The application for the partial bond release for backfilling, grading, and respread of suitable plant growth materials is now ready to be approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission. All deficiencies in the application have been corrected and no repair work is necessary in the field. A copy of the updated application is included on the enclosed disk.

The bond release application contain acreage where federal coal was mined in the S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 30 (see attached map); therefore, OSM concurrence will be needed for the application prior to bond release approval. The tract was field inspected by Mr. Gene Robinson and Mr. John Sieving from your staff and Dr. Steve Schroeder, Mr. Bruce Beechie, and Mr. Matt Klingenstein from our staff on June 16, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Deutsch".

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosure

cc: Randy Crooke w/o enclosure

m:\falkirk\9601\bond release\No. 3\fed_concur_rqst_10-27-09

10 RC-09-260 Filed 10/27/2009 Pages: 2
OSM Concurrence Requested for Bond Release Approval
Public Service Commission
Steve Schroeder

