



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
Casper Field Office
PO Box 11018
150 East B Street, RM 1018
Casper, WY 82602



December 15, 2011

Jim Deutsch, Director
Reclamation Division
State of North Dakota
Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 0408
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0408

RE: Bond Release No.7, Basin Cooperative Services, Glenharold Mine, Permit BCGH-8204

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Casper Field Office has received Bond Release Application No. 7 for final bond release. This bond release application includes Federal Lands, therefore, Office of Surface Mining (OSM) concurrence is needed.

The Reclamation Division inspected the requested bond release area on September 14th of 2011. The Casper Field Office inspected the requested bond release area on June 9th of 2011. The Reclamation Division plans to recommend Commission approval of the bond release in early 2012.

The CFO reviewed the bond release application for compliance with all other non-SMCRA Federal requirements. There are no unfulfilled requirements that would preclude the release of bond. OSM concurs with the recommendation for approval of the bond release application.

If you have any questions, please contact John Ahlbrandt of the Casper Field Office at (307)261-6553.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Fleischman, Director
Casper Field Office