

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Reclamation Division

Memorandum

TO: Commissioners Fedorchak, Christmann, and Kalk
Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary
Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco and John Schuh

FROM: Jim Deutsch, Dean Moos and Zanna Brinkman
J/D DKM ZAB

DATE: October 8, 2015

SUBJECT: Application for Revision 30 to Surface Coal Mining Permit No. KRSB-8802, Case No. RC-15-424, held by Dakota Westmoreland Corporation

Dakota Westmoreland Corporation filed the application for Revision No. 30 to Permit KRSB-8802 for the Beulah Mine on June 25, 2015. This revision updates plans and other information in the permit for the fifth renewal. The Reclamation Division has completed its review of this application and respectfully recommends that it be approved.

Revision No. 30 updates the business entity and compliance information, property ownership information, general operations and reclamation plans and other sections of the permit for the next five-year permit term. Approval of this revision will be in conjunction with the approval of Renewal No. 5. Permit KRSB-8802 contains 4,905.9 acres located in all or portions of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 24, T143N, R88W, Mercer County and Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19 and 20, T143N, R87W, Oliver County.

Coal removal has been completed from this permit area, but final reclamation of portions of the permit east of State Highway 49 remains to be completed. This permit area also contains the shop-office complex, coal handling facility and haulroads that support active mining operations in Permit KRSB-8603.

Surety Bond No. 64S103557522BCM covers this permit and the current bond amount of \$10,382,986 is sufficient to cover the current worst-case reclamation condition in this permit.

Dakota Westmoreland published notices of the renewal and revision applications in the Bismarck Tribune, Center Republican and Hazen Star. We also sent notices to the affected landowners, appropriate agencies and advisory committee members as required. No objections to the application were received.

Attached are the motion, revision award form and approval notice for the newspaper publication for your consideration at the October 14, 2015 Commission meeting.

Attachments

Minedata/Beulah/Permits/KRSB-8802/Revisions/No.30/Rev30_memo_10-8-15.docx

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Public Service Commission Staff

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