

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(a): The permittee’s name, address and the appropriate permit number.**

Westmoreland San Juan Mining LLC (WSJM), San Juan Mine has made an application for the Phase I, II, and III bond release “Solar Gen-Tie” of 66.4 acres to the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) for a portion of the area currently under Permit #24-01 approved September 15, 2025. Application for bond release is submitted pursuant to the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), 19.8.14

Westmoreland San Juan Mining LLC  
San Juan Mine  
P.O. Box 260  
Waterflow, New Mexico 87421

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(b) An accurate legal description of the land sought for bond release (either metes and bounds or precise Section, Township and Range designations).**

The San Juan Mine permit area is located approximately 16 miles west of Farmington. The areas requested for Phase I, II, and III bond release “Solar Gen-Tie “ are located within the following lands of San Juan County, New Mexico, which are described as follows:

Township 30 North Range 15 West  
Section 14 – 21.2 acres  
Section 15 – 34.5 acres  
Section 16 – 9.0acres  
Section 22 – 1.7 acres

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(c): The location of the area proposed for bond release shown on a USGS 7.5' map, which should also show the permit boundaries.**

Areas requested for bond release for the San Juan Mine permit areas are shown in Appendix B Exhibits on a USGS 7.5’ base map (see 2025 Bond Release Area San Juan Mine- USGS Quads).

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(d): A brief narrative summarizing the past history of the mine, the type, amount and date of the current bonding instrument, the number of acres included in the bond release application and the portion it represents of the total permit area, documentation of the type and dates of the reclamation performed with a summary of the results achieved as they relate to the approved reclamation plan, and any other pertinent information that the applicant or the Director may consider appropriate.**

The current mining area was originally permitted by Western Coal Company (WCC) under Permit to Mine #2 approved August 20, 1973, by the New Mexico Coal Surface Mining Commission (CSMC). In December 1980, Utah International acquired WCC leases and founded San Juan Coal Company (SJCC). MMD approved Permit #2-5P for the San Juan Mine on September 26, 1984. Permit #2-5P was subsequently renewed on September 26, 1989. Permit #2-5P was changed to Permit #94-01 and was approved on September 26, 1994. Permit #99-01 was renewed by MMD, which included the San Juan Underground Mine operations permit revision on October 22, 1999. On September 24, 2004, permit #04-01 was renewed by MMD, and on September 25, 2009, permit #09-01 was renewed by MMD. The permit #14-01 was approved on September 26, 2014. On March 15 2019, all permits belonging to SJCC were assigned to a new company, Westmoreland San Juan Mining LLC (WSJM). San Juan Mine Permit, #19-01, was approved on March 16, 2020. The current permit #24-01, was approved on September 15, 2025.

A letter of credit for \$95,390,000 is filed with New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division to satisfy the reclamation bond requirement. The applicant is seeking determination that the work necessary for Phase I, II, and III bond release “Solar Gen-Tie “ has been successfully completed for the post mine use designated as Industrial Land Use. The applicant is seeking determination that the work necessary for Phase I, II, III

bond release “Solar Gen-Tie “ has been successfully completed. WSJM will be seeking bond reduction of \$303,684.

<b>Portion of Permit Area Proposed for Phases I, II, &amp; III Release “Solar Gen-Tie “</b>	<b>Acres</b>
2025 Proposed Phase I, II, and III Release Area	66.4
Total Permit Area	17,740
Portion of the Permit Area Proposed for Release	0.003%

All lands within the requested bond release area have been designated as Industrial Land Use . These lands are comprised of reclaimed areas from previous surface mining and undeveloped areas overlying the underground mine. Existing use is Industrial Land Use based on the recent approval that changed it from grazing and wildlife.

No existing mine related infrastructure occurs in the bond release area other than minor two-track dirt roads.

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(e): a table listing the current names, addresses and number of acres held by each of the surface and mineral owners of record in the area proposed for bond release.**

2025 Bond Release Area San Juan Mine Ownership shows both the surface and mineral ownership areas within the industrial use bond release area. The table below shows the names, addresses, and acreages of each of the surface and mineral owners.

<b>Surface Owner<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Area (ac)</b>
Bureau of Land Management	P. O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, NM 87501	44.6
State of New Mexico	New Mexico State Land Office P. O. Box 1148 Santa Fe, NM 87504	9.0
Michael Deon Watts	618 N 650 E Springville, UT 84663	11.5
Wagon Rod Ranch LLC	11567 Road 27.5 Cortez, CO 81321	1.3
Total		66.4

<b>Mineral Owner<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Area (ac)</b>
Bureau of Land Management	P. O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, NM 87501	57.4
State of New Mexico	New Mexico State Land Office P. O. Box 1148 Santa Fe, NM 87504	9
Total		66.4

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(f): copies of letters sent to adjoining landowners, local governmental bodies, planning agencies, sewage and water treatment authorities, and water companies in the vicinity of the reclamation operation, notifying them of the permittee’s intention to seek bond release;**

A draft letter to notify landowners, local government bodies, and other planning agencies of San Juan Mine’s request for bond release are in [Appendix A Surface Ownership Notification Letter](#). The addresses are located in [Appendix C Notification Mailing List](#).

**19.8.14.1412 A(3): a copy of the newspaper advertisement that will be used to provide public notification of the application for bond release (cf. 19.8.14.1412.A (3) NMAC)**

Draft public notice for publication in The Tri-City Record (Formally the Farmington Daily Times) is provided in [Appendix D Draft Public Notice](#).

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(g): Other maps or information required by the Director to locate or characterize the areas proposed for bond release, soils, revegetation, hydrological or other reclamation issues.**

Maps of the proposed Phase III bond release areas are provided in [Appendix B Exhibits](#). The exhibits include:

- [2025 Bond Release Areas San Juan Mine Aerial](#): Shows proposed Phase I, II, and III bond release areas.
- [2025 Bond Release Areas San Juan Mine Topography](#): Shows drainages.
- [2025 Bond Release Areas San Juan Mine Ownership](#): Shows both the surface and mineral ownership areas within the proposed industrial use bond release area.
- [2025 Bond Release Areas San Juan Mine USGS Quads](#): Shows the proposed bond release areas on USGS Quadrangle maps.

**19.8.14.1412 A(2)(h): the permittee shall include in the application for bond release a notarized statement which certifies that all applicable reclamation activities have been accomplished in accordance with the requirements of SMCRA, the act, the regulatory program, and the approved reclamation plan; a certification shall be submitted for each application or phase of bond release.**

Statement of certification is provided in [Appendix E Statement of Certification](#).

**19.8.14.1412 C(1) At the completion of phase I, after the operator completes the backfilling, regrading (which may include the replacement of topsoil) and drainage control of a bonded area in accordance with the approved reclamation plan**

Regrading to the approved permit has been completed on the disturbed portions of the bond release area in accordance with the with the reclamation plan in Permit #24-01. The area requested for bond release is being used as transmission line corridor with access roads for a 345-kV generation tie to the San Juan Solar Project. Of the bond reduction request for \$303,684, \$77,636 is for Phase I bond release over 4.9 acres that have been graded to the approved plan.

**19.8.14.1412 C(2) At the completion of phase II, after revegetation has been established on the regraded mined lands in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, an additional amount of bond. When determining the amount of bond to be released after successful revegetation has been established, the director shall retain that amount of bond for the revegetated area which would be sufficient to cover the cost of reestablishing revegetation if completed by a third party and for the period specified for operator responsibility in Section 69-25A-19 NMSA 1978 of the act for reestablishing revegetation. No part of the bond or deposit shall be released under this paragraph so long as the lands to which the release would be applicable are contributing suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area in excess of the requirements set by Paragraph (10) of Subsection B of Section 69-25A-19 NMSA 1978 of the act and by 19.8.19 NMAC through 19.8.28 NMAC or until soil productivity for prime farmlands has returned to the equivalent levels of yield as non-mined land of the same soil type in the surrounding area under equivalent management practices as determined from the soil survey performed pursuant to Paragraph (16) of Subsection B of Section 69-25A-10 NMSA 1978 of the act and 19.8.24 NMAC. Where a silt dam is to be retained**

**as a permanent impoundment pursuant to 19.8.19 NMAC through 19.8.28 NMAC, the phase II portion of the bond may be released under this paragraph so long as provisions for sound future maintenance by the operator or the landowner have been made with the director.**

Topsoil replacement and revegetation were completed on the disturbed portions of the bond release area in accordance with the reclamation plan in Permit #24-01.

There are no prime farmlands within the proposed bond release area.

No silt dams will be retained as a permanent impoundment within the bond release area.

Of the bond reduction request for \$303,684, \$187,764 is for Phase II bond release over 21.4 acres that have been topsoiled and vegetated by the mine under the approved plan.

**19.8.14.1412 C(3): At the completion of phase III, after the operator has completed successfully all surface coal mining and reclamation activities, the release of the remaining portion of the bond, but not before the expiration of the period specified for operator responsibility in 19.8.20.2065 NMAC.**

As previously stated, the applicant is seeking a determination that the work necessary for Phase I, II and III bond release has been successfully completed. WSJM is seeking bond reduction of \$303,684. Of the bond reduction request for \$303,684, \$38,284 is for Phase III bond release over 21.4 acres that have been topsoiled and vegetated by the mine under the approved plan.

**19.8.20.2065 B(5)(d): for areas to be developed for industrial or residential use less than 2 years after regrading is completed, the ground cover of living plants shall not be less than required to control erosion**

All disturbed lands have been regraded, topsoiled, and seeded in accordance with the permit requirements. Additionally, the industrial user of the right of way covered in this release as mulched and seeded their disturbance from the transmission line installation. Lands are stable within the requested release area and do not show any significant erosion features.