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Submitted Title: Bond Release Geodatabase for a surface coal mine in Wyoming

Submitted Abstract:

The Bond Release Geodatabase developed for the North Antelope Rochelle Mine (NARM) in Wyoming is the result of a cooperative effort between the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Technical Innovation and Professional Services (TIPS) program, the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Land Quality Division (LQD), and the Powder River Coal LLC (PRC). This is the first spatially supported database developed in Wyoming for reclamation bond release processing purposes. The geodatabase was designed to support the tracking of areas which have achieved backfill verification and satisfied performance standards in support of incremental bond release. The incremental bond release process involves the approval of regulatory requirements for the release of bonding instruments. Selected compliance features used to support the approval of incremental bond release (topsoil depth, erosion features, wildlife habitat features) were monitored and entered into the geodatabase by the LQD personnel during inspections using GPS enabled data collector.