



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON TX 76011-4511

September 18, 2015

Mr. Andrew B. McCallister
Vice President & Assistant General Counsel -
Environmental Affairs
Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.
300 Running Right Way
Julian, WV 25529

**SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ALPHA COAL WEST, INC., BANKRUPTCY
NOTIFICATION**

Dear Mr. McCallister:

This acknowledges your letter dated August 13, 2015, informing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that Alpha Natural Resources, Inc., and its affiliate Alpha Coal West, Inc., (NRC License Number 49-26963-03) filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 11 in Federal Bankruptcy Court on August 3, 2015.

Please be informed that the bankruptcy filing does not relieve Alpha Coal West, Inc., of its obligations to comply with NRC requirements, including those relating to security and control of licensed material; decontamination and decommissioning of contaminated facilities; and the retention of personnel required by NRC requirements (e.g., the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), authorized users, etc.). Additionally, inspections of your activities will continue to occur.

If the RSO leaves your employ, you must first properly secure, dispose of, or transfer all licensed material, and you must inform NRC of this situation. If you need to close a building, you must first properly secure, dispose of, or transfer all licensed material that was in the building. NRC licenses remain in full effect even beyond their stated expiration date, until terminated in writing by NRC.

You may not (1) transfer control of your license without prior written NRC approval, or (2) transfer licensed material except as authorized by NRC regulations. You should ensure that your attorney and any trustee involved in the bankruptcy proceedings are aware of these obligations. Any person who takes control of licensed activities or possession of the licensed material including any contaminated equipment or property transferred by the licensee must first obtain an NRC license.

Please notify us immediately if you are unable to meet any of these conditions. Also, please notify us when the bankruptcy proceeding is completed.

A. McCallister

-2-

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. You may contact me at 817-200-1189 if you have any questions or information concerning the status of your license or activities.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Roberto J. Torres, M.S., Senior Health Physicist
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch B

Docket: 030-32949
License: 49-26963-03
Control: 588747

Cc: Dave K. Olson, Radiation Safety Officer
Alpha Coal West, Inc.
2273 Bishop Road
Gillette, Wyoming 82718