

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD  
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

_____	)	
In re:	)	
	)	NPDES APPEAL No. 14-04
Lee Ranch Coal Company,	)	
El Segundo Mine	)	
	)	
NPDES Permit No. NM0030996	)	
_____	)	

**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

Respectfully, Region 6 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“Region 6”) and Petitioner Lee Ranch Coal Company (“LRCC”) (collectively, the “Parties”) jointly file this Status Report with regard to the above-captioned proceeding.

On November 28, 2014, the Environmental Appeals Board granted the Parties’ Joint Motion to Stay the Proceedings to allow the Parties to undertake settlement negotiations and ordered the Parties to file a joint status report with the Board on or before January 30, 2015.

Respective counsel for the Parties have engaged in multiple telephone conversations from November 2014 through January 2015, and believe that such discussions to date have been constructive toward attempting to work out a resolution of the matter. Counsel for Region 6 has engaged and conferred with EPA Region 6 staff, as well as the EPA Region 6 Associate Director of the NPDES Permits & TMDLs Branch Director and the EPA Region 6 Director of the Water Quality Protection Division. The Parties will continue their efforts to resolve this matter, believing it remains a worthwhile alternative and an appropriate allocation of resources, and will file another status report on or before February 27, 2015.

Date: January 30, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS, LLP

/s/ Peter Duchesneau

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Peter R. Duchesneau, hereby certify that on this 30th of January, 2015, I served a copy of the foregoing Joint Status Report on the parties identified below by U.S. mail.

Ron Curry  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
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and

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/s/ Peter Duchesneau  
Peter R. Duchesneau