



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

August 18, 2011

Via Email

Ms. Jennifer S. Grafton
General Counsel and Secretary
Westmoreland Coal Company
2 North Cascade Avenue, 2nd Floor
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

**Re: Westmoreland Coal Company
Form 10-K for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010
Filed March 11, 2011
File No. 1-11155**

Dear Ms. Grafton:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filing and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ Karl Hiller

Karl Hiller
Branch Chief