

COLORADO OPERATIONS Henderson Mine and Mill P.O. Box 68 Empire, CO 80438 Phone (303) 569-3221 Fax (303) 569-2830

October 24, 2013

Sent Via Email and UPS Tracking #: 1Z 804 847 03 7845 4338

Mr. Peter Hays Environmental Protection Specialist Colorado Division or Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203 RECEIVED

OCT 25 2013

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION MINING AND SAFETY

#### Re: Climax Molybdenum Company, Henderson Mine and Mill, Permit No. M-1977-342 Technical Revision No. 21, Seed Mix Modification

Dear Mr. Hays,

Climax Molybdenum Company (CMC) is hereby submitting this request for a new Technical Revision (TR-21), as described below. Attached is a check in the amount of \$1,006.00 to cover fees for this Technical Revision.

#### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This Technical Revision (TR) modifies CMC's Henderson Operation Permit (M-1977-342) for the Henderson Mine and Henderson Mill. This TR modifies the current upland reclamation seed mixture and includes two additional special use seed mixtures, one for temporary site stabilization and one for establishing permanent wetlands. Post-mining land use priorities and specific reclamation methods and goals are not affected by this revision.

The Henderson properties range in elevation from a minimum of 8,500 feet below the tailing impoundment at the Henderson Mill in Grand County to a maximum of 10,500 feet in Clear Creek County. Most potential reclamation areas are within the upper montane and subalpine vegetation zones of Colorado. The native vegetation communities on these properties include Engelmann spruce/subalpine fir forests, aspen forests, subalpine meadow and grassland communities, subalpine wetlands, and rocky talus slopes.

The reclamation seed mixture currently approved for use on the Henderson properties has been successful at achieving vegetation cover and soil stabilization. However, it includes few native species and does not promote a diverse reclaimed vegetation community. As reclamation practices have evolved over the past several decades, native species diversity and continuity with surrounding native communities have emerged as valuable reclamation goals, along with cover and erosion control. The revised and new proposed seed mixtures presented in this TR are designed to meet this expanded goal. A field survey of adjacent undisturbed native communities and reclaimed communities on the Henderson properties was conducted and an effort was made to use locally common native species in the proposed seed mixtures.

#### 2.0 REVISED SEED MIXTURES

Based on the characteristics of the reclamation area being reclaimed, one of the seed mixtures described below will typically be used for seeding:

- Upland Reclamation Upland reclamation areas being permanently reclaimed will be seeded with the upland reclamation seed mixture (Section 0).
- Temporary Cover Growth media stockpiles and reclamation areas that will be redisturbed will be seeded with the temporary seed mixture (Section 0).
- Wetlands Reclamation areas that are planned to be reclaimed to mesic or wetland cover will be seeded with the wetland seed mixture (Section 00).

A concerted effort will be made to acquire the recommended seed mixtures; however, plant species availability and pricing varies from year to year and this may require some substitutions. When substituting becomes necessary, alternative plant species will be selected from the appropriate seed mixture plant species lists included in this TR. When substitutions are required, percentages and diversity of each life form (*e.g.*, perennial grasses, perennial forbs, and shrubs) will be maintained in the revised seed mixture to the extent possible.

In addition to making substitutions based upon seed availability as discussed above, CMC maintains programs seeking to expand and maintain biodiversity on its property, where particular species may be determined to be useful to expand species composition, forage and habitat, or to reduce the occurrence of weedy species. In cases where native plant material may be available to accomplish these specific objectives, CMC will identify suitable substitutions and communicate these substitutions with the Division.

#### 2.1 Upland Reclamation Seed Mixture

The upland reclamation seed mixture (Table 1) will be used to establish permanent vegetation in upland reclamation areas. This seed mixture will be broadcast or hydroseeded at a target rate of 50 pure live seeds per square foot (PLS/sf). Upland seed mixture alternate plant species are presented in Table 2.

Species	Common Name	Desired Species Composition	Avg Seeds /Lb	Lbs PLS/ Acre	PLS /sf
Grasses					
Bromus marginatus	mountain brome	5%	64,000	1.70	2.5
Deschampsia caespitosa	tufted hairgrass	10%	2,500,000	0.09	5.0
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	10%	134,500	1.62	5.0
Elymus trachycaulus	slender wheatgrass	10%	159,000	1.37	5.0
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue	10%	450,000	0.48	5.0
Festuca saximontana	Rocky Mountain fescue	10%	650,000	0.34	5.0
Pascopyrum smithii	Western wheatgrass	5%	110,000	0.99	2.5
Phleum alpinum	alpine timothy	5%	1,300,000	0.08	2.5
Poa pratensis spp. agassizensis	Rocky Mountain bluegrass	7%	2,177,000	0.07	3.5
Poa alpina	alpine bluegrass	5%	1,000,000	0.11	2.5
Graminoid Subtotal		77%	400	6.85	38.5
Forbs					
Achillea millefolium	common yarrow	5%	2,770,000	0.04	2.5

Table 1	: Upland	Reclamation	Seed	Mixture
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Species	Common Name	Desired Species Composition	Avg Seeds /Lb	Lbs PLS/ Acre	PLS /sf
Linum lewisii	blue flax	5%	293,000	0.37	2.5
Penstemon strictus	Rocky Mountain penstemon	5%	592,000	0.18	2.5
Vicia americana	American vetch	2%	32,800	1.33	1.0
Forb Subtotal		17%		1.92	8.5
Shrubs					
Rosa woodsii	Woods' rose	2%	45,300	0.96	1.0
Ribes montigenum	gooseberry currant	2%	195,500	0.22	1.0
Shepherdia canadensis	russet buffaloberry	2%	59,200	0.74	1.0
Shrub Subtotal		6%		1.92	3.0
Combined Total		100%		10.69	50.0

### Table 2: Upland Seed Mixture Alternate Plant Species

Species	Common Name	Avg Seeds/Lb
Grasses		3 2 3 3 3 3
Achnatherum lettermanii	Letterman's needlegrass	225,000
Bromus anomalus	nodding brome	108,500
Bromus ciliatus	fringed brome	80,000
Calamagrostis canadensis	bluejoint reedgrass	4,480,000
Festuca arizonica	Arizona fescue	500,000
Muhlenbergia montana	mountain muhly	1,600,000
Poa secunda ssp. ampla	Sandberg bluegrass	900,000
Pseudoroegneria spicata	bluebunch wheatgrass	140,000
Trisetum spicatum	spike trisetum	2,500,000
Forbs		
Aquilegia coerulea	Colorado blue columbine	399,600
Amica cordifolia	heartleaf arnica	1,000,000
Amica parryii	Parry's arnica	900,000
Artemisia frigida	prairie sage	4,500,000
Campanula rotundifolia	bluebell bellflower	5,000,000
Chamerion angustifolium	fireweed	8,000,000
Erigeron elatior	tall fleabane	1,000,000
Erigeron speciosus	aspen fleabane	1,135,000
Eriogonum umbellatum	sulphur-flower buckwheat	350,000
Lupinus argenteus	slivery lupine	25,880
Phacelia sericea	silky phacelia	900,000
Solidago simplex	Mt. Albert goldenrod	2,000,000

Species	Common Name	Avg Seeds/Lb
Shrubs		
Artemisia tridentata ssp. vaseyana	mountain big sagebrush	2,300,000
Dasiphora fruticosa	shrubby cinquefoil	1,000,000
Ribes cereum	wax currant	200,000

#### 2.2 Temporary Cover/Stabilization Seed Mixture

The temporary/stabilization seed mixture (Table 3) will be used in reclamation areas that require temporary cover or stabilization. This includes all growth media stockpiles as well as reclamation areas that are anticipated to be re-disturbed within five years of the initial seeding treatment. This seed mixture should be broadcast or hydroseeded at a target rate of 100 Pure Live Seeds (PLS)/ square foot (sf). Temporary cover seed mixture alternate plant species are presented in Table 4.

<b>Table 3: Temporary</b>	Cover/Stabilization	Seed Mixture	
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Species	Common Name	Desired Species Composition	Avg Seeds /Lb	Lbs PLS/ Acre	PLS /sf
Grasses		A REALIZED AND	S. Leaderson		
Bromus marginatus	mountain brome	15%	64,000	5.10	7.5
Deschampsia caespitosa	tufted hairgrass	15%	2,500,000	0.13	7.5
Elymus trachycaulus	slender wheatgrass	20%	159,000	2.74	10.0
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue	15%	450,000	0.73	7.5
Pascopyrum smithii	Western wheatgrass	15%	110,000	2.97	7.5
Poa pratensis spp. agassizensis	Rocky Mountain bluegrass	20%	2,177,000	0.20	10.0
Totals		100%		11.870	50.0

Table 4: Temporary Cover/Stabilization Seed Mixture Alternate Species

Species	Common Name	Avg Seeds/Lb
Bromus anomalus	nodding brome	108,500
Bromus ciliatus	fringed brome	80,000
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	134,500
Festuca arizonica	Arizona fescue	500,000
Festuca saximontana	Rocky Mountain fescue	650,000
Muhlenbergia montana	mountain muhly	1,600,000
Poa alpina	alpine bluegrass	1,000,000
Pseudoroegneria spicata	bluebunch wheatgrass	140,000
Trisetum spicatum	spike trisetum	2,500,000

#### 2.3 Wetland Seed Mixture

The wetland seed mixture (Table 5) will be used in areas being reclaimed as wetlands. These areas typically have either been previously classified as wetlands or designated as wetland mitigation areas. Usually they have hydric soils and saturated soil conditions for at least 10% of the growing season. This

seed mixture will be broadcast at a target rate of 50 PLS/sf. The wetland seed mixture alternate plant species are presented in Table 6.

#### Table 5: Wetland Seed Mixture

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Species	Common Name	Wetland Indicator Status	Desired Species Composition	Avg Seeds /Lb	Lbs PLS/ Acre	PLS /sf
Graminoids				All States		
Calamagrostis canadensis	Bluejoint reedgrass	FACW	15%	4,480,000	0.06	6.5
Carex aquatilis	water sedge	OBL	10%	1,152,250	0.19	5.0
Carex utriculata	Northwest Territory sedge	OBL	10%	1,000,000	0.22	5.0
Deschampsia caespitosa	tufted hairgrass	FACW	15%	2,500,000	0.13	7.5
Juncus balticus	Baltic rush	FACW	10%	10,900,000	0.11	5.0
Juncus ensifolius	dagger leaf rush	FACW	10%	2,914,000	0.00	5.0
Phleum alpinum	alpine timothy	FAC	10%	1,300,000	0.20	6.0
Poa palustris	fowl bluegrass	FAC	10%	3,156,000	0.00	5.0
Graminoid Subtotal			90%		0.91	45.0
Forbs						
Delphinium barbeyi	Subalpine Iarkspur	FAC	3%	500,000	0.09	1.0
Mimulus guttatus	Seep monkeyflower	OBL	4%	550,000	0.12	1.5
Mertensia ciliata	tall fringed bluebells	FACW	3%	225,000	0.29	1.5
Forb Subtotal			10%		0.50	4.0
Combined Total			100%		1.41	49.0

#### Table 6: Wetland Seed Mixture Alternate Species

Species	Common Name	Wetland Indicator Status	Avg Seeds/Lb
Graminoids			
Bromus ciliatus	Fringed brome	FAC	236,000
Calamagrostis stricta	slimstem reedgrass	FACW	2,400,000
Carex scopulorum	Rocky Mountain sedge	OBL	1,100,000
Carex praegracilis	Meadow sedge	OBL	1,816,000
Glyceria striata	fowl mannagrass	OBL	180,000
Juncus confusus	Colorado rush	FAC	12,000,000
Juncus longistylis	longstyle rush	FACW	16,000,000
Juncus mertensianus	Merten's rush	OBL	45,400,000
Juncus saximontanus	Rocky Mountain rush	FACW	24,000,000

Species	Common Name	Wetland Indicator Status	Avg Seeds/Lb
Forbs			
Aconitum columbianum	Columbian monkshood	FACW	240,000
Caltha leptosepala	marsh marigold	OBL	400,000
Geum macrophyllum	largeleaf avens	FAC	300,000
Pedicularis groenlandica	elephantella	OBL	550,000
Rhodiola rhodantha	rosecrown	FACW	1,135,000
Senecio triangularis	arrowleaf ragwort	FACW	1,316,600
Veronica americana	American speedwell	OBL	300,000
Veronica wormskjoldii	American alpine speedwell	FACW	300,000

Please contact me at (303) 569-3221, ext. 1233 or Bryce Romig (ext. 1204) if you have any questions regarding this submittal.

Sincerely,

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Miguel Ant

Miguel Hamarat Chief Environmental Engineer Climax Molybdenum Company Henderson Operations

Attachments:

1. Check #0000792666 in the amount of \$1,006.00.

cc (via email, w/o attachments):

- T. Kaldenbach, DRMS
- B. Romig, Climax
- T. Haynes, Climax

## Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety

# Fee Receipt for M1977342

Climax Molybdenum Company	Receipt #:	16252
	Date:	10/25/2013
	Permit:	M1977342
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Payment Method	Revenue Code	Fee Description/Notes	Amount
0000792666	4300-11	Minerals Technical Revision	\$1,006.00
		M1977 342 Technical Revision KJA	
		Receipt Tota	I: \$1,006.00