

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215

Denver, Colorado 80203

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November 4, 2013

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
Executive Director

Loretta E. Piñeda
Director

Mr. Don Coram
Gold Eagle Mining, Inc.
P.O. Box 3007
Montrose, CO 81401

Re: C-JD-5 Mine, Permit M-1977-248, Technical Revision TR-02, Technical Adequacy Review of Revision, Possible Need for Extension

Dear Mr. Coram,

The Division has been reviewing the above referenced Technical Revision for adequacy issues. Staff has received materials from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the general public regarding specific reclamation plan information, which pertains to the Burros Mine site. At this time, staff has not received further information from you, as the permittee, since your October 4, 2013, request for extension. Additional materials from DOE contain an updated seed mix that will be made part of this technical revision TR-02. As such, application of that seed mix will be required at the proper time during final reclamation. (Note: A copy of the required seed mix is attached to this letter, for your information.)

The technical revision application includes updated details to address current conditions and the lack of mining activities that had been anticipated when the original reclamation plans were approved. Staff notes these changes have a minor effect upon the currently approved reclamation permit and conform to the reclamation standards contained in Hard Rock and Metals Rule 3.

Listed below are specific details of the proposed plan which the Division is reviewing for sufficiency and adequacy.

1. Main shaft. The revision is to leave the steel grate that is welded in place at the shaft collar, with no shaft backfilling required. This method of permanent closure must include a sufficiently strong steel grate fully covering all portions of the shaft opening. The surrounding concrete collar must be intact and competent.
2. Hoist house. The revision is to remove this building and its contents from the site. The removed materials are to be properly disposed of offsite.
3. Wood and concrete ore bins (adjacent to hoist house). The revision is for the ore bins (consisting of wood superstructure and concrete pad) to be demolished and its footprint reclaimed.
4. Wood cribbing and ore pad (upland, on/near Mineral Joe claim). The revision is for the wood cribbing and adjoining concrete ore pad to be removed and the footprint reclaimed.

5. Steel headframe. The steel headframe and its associated skips, cables and spools are intact. The revision is for these to remain as permanent features on the site, due to their claimed value as "historic" structures.
6. Overburden stockpiles. The piles of overburden have been in place long enough to have become vegetated by natural encroachment of local vegetation, despite the fact that their slopes are generally steeper than the required 3H:1V gradient. They are considered stable with no need to further grade or contour them. However, overburden material may be needed to cap or recontour reclamation areas, such as the concrete pads. As such, the redisturbed portions of the existing overburden piles must be graded to conform to the 3:1 requirement.
7. Revegetation. The DOE-required seed mix, which will become part of your reclamation plan, is discussed above. There will be areas to be revegetated, but there is a lack of information in the revised reclamation plan regarding those specific areas (such as the ore pads, building footprint, and overburden pile, for example). Therefore, please show the areas to be revegetated in an updated "Exhibit E – Reclamation Map."
8. The proposed reclamation schedule is not in conformance with Division requirements nor your commitment. Per the previously-arranged reclamation schedule, included in your last inspection report, your earthwork and seeding must be completed by May 31, 2014.

The Division's current decision date for the TR-02 was extended to November 6, 2013. Since it is not possible for your responses to be received by the Division in advance of that date, an extension of the decision date must be requested. Please contact this office promptly to discuss an extended date.

As usual, we request that you please provide two complete sets of the response materials. As a reminder, all maps and diagrams must be signed and dated. All hard copy sets of materials should be mailed to the Division's main office in Denver at 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203.

If there are questions, please contact me at the Division's Durango Field Office: telephone 970-247-5193, or by e-mail at bob.oswald@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Bob Oswald
Environmental Protection Specialist

Encl: Updated DOE seed mix

Ec: Russ Means, DRMS, Grand Junction
Tony Waldron, DRMS, Denver
Ed Cotter, U.S. DOE, Grand Junction

URANIUM LEASING SITES

Reseeding Specifications

The following seed mixture was developed, in consultation with U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and is generally approved for use within the Slick Rock, Naturita, Uravan, and Gateway, Colorado, areas. Seed selection criteria were based on climate and elevation ranges within these areas. Recognizing that surface soil conditions, nutrients, and available moisture can vary within these areas, successful establishment of six or more of the twelve species is considered adequate. If the total number of species seeded is less than that specified below, the seeding rates for the individual species must be adjusted accordingly. All seed tags must be submitted to DOE for verification prior to the seeding application.

Species		Broadcast Application Rate (lbs. PLS/ acre)
Scientific Name	Common Name	
<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>	Arriba western wheatgrass	4.0
<i>Elymus trachycaulus ssp. trachycaulus</i>	Slender wheatgrass	2.0
<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>	Paloma Indian ricegrass	4.0
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Hachita blue grama	2.0
<i>Hilaria jamesii</i> (florets)	Galleta grass	2.0
<i>Stipa comata</i>	Needleandthread grass	1.0
<i>Stipa viridula</i>	Lodorm green needlegrass	2.0
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Lewis flax	1.0
<i>Penstemon palmeri</i>	Cedar Palmer penstemon	0.5
<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i> or <i>Sphaeralcea parvifolia</i>	Scarlet or Parvifolia globemallow	0.3
<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	Rincon fourwing saltbush	3.0
<i>Ceratoides lanata</i>	Winterfat	1.0
Total pounds per acre		22.8

Seed shall be broadcast at the specified application rate and covered (except "pocked" surfaces) using a drag bar, chain link, or packer wheels. If seed is drilled, use one-half (½) the broadcast rate.

Seeding shall be performed during one of the following time periods:

- For best results, between October 15 and consistent ground freeze; or
- Between August 1 and August 31.

Revegetation efforts on the disturbed areas will be considered satisfactory when:

- Soil erosion resulting from the operation has been stabilized; and
- A vegetative cover at least equal to that present prior to the disturbance and a plant species composition at least as desirable as that present prior to the disturbance has been established.