



STATE OF
COLORADO

Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

Re: Black Range Minerals

1 message

Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

Wed, Dec 4, 2013 at 4:08 PM

To: Lee J Alter <alterconsult@starband.net>

Cc: Kay Hawkle <khawkle@aol.com>, Cathe <cmmeyrick@aol.com>, "Kaldenbach, Tom" <tom.kaldenbach@state.co.us>, "Waldron, Tony" <Tony.Waldron@state.co.us>

Mr. Alter,

1. Our Rules and statutes do not require authorization of a baseline groundwater quality evaluation program. The DRMS did approve a financial warranty for the proper abandonment of several dual purpose (groundwater monitoring & prospecting) bore holes.
2. a) No, b) There is nothing to comment on.
3. a) The start date is up to the prospector/miner, b) Yes.
4. a) Possibly, we consider all appropriate data, b) If relevance can be demonstrated.
5. It may or may not have value, depends on the data.
6. Please see the answer to #5 above.
7. My recollection puts the number somewhere between 9 and 11.

Hope you had a happy Thanksgiving.

Tim Cazier, P.E.

Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
ph: 303-866-3567 x8169
NEW cell: 303-328-5229
fax: 303-832-8106
tim.cazier@state.co.us

On Wed, Dec 4, 2013 at 10:50 AM, Lee J Alter <alterconsult@starband.net> wrote:

Tim

This is a follow-up to my email of Nov 18, below. May I expect answers to my series of questions in the near future?

Thanks,

Lee

On Mon, Nov 18, 2013 at 8:14 PM, Lee J Alter <alterconsult@starband.net> wrote:

Tim

I have some questions regarding the mining permit application requirements for a baseline groundwater quality evaluation program.

You will recall that at the Pre-Hearing Conference for our appeal regarding NOI 2009-025 Mod 2 about one year ago, there was considerable discussion about the requested monitoring wells and their purpose and locations.

It was my understanding -- please correct me if I'm wrong -- that this specific requested monitoring well construction program was not to be considered part of the pre-mining baseline program required under the rules but rather a preliminary evaluation of the local hydrology that would be used to design the program that would be submitted as part of the mining permit application. It was pointed out, however, that any data generated during this preliminary program might (and could) be incorporated into the final baseline program.

If my understanding is correct, my questions are:

1. Under what authorization would the pre-mining baseline groundwater quality evaluation program be conducted? Another modification of the current NOI or something else?
2. Does the department have review and approval authority over the specific design of the program? Are relevant comments and objections from the public allowed?
3. When do the required five quarters of data start running? May the permit application be submitted prior to the end of the five quarters?
4. Would data obtained from a random, limited, and voluntary selection of local domestic water wells be considered as part of the program? Either from before or after the design of the program?
5. Of what value is any historical data from the Cyprus monitoring wells of approximately 35 years ago, prior to significant residential development and the construction of well over one hundred domestic water wells drawing from the aquifers in the Tallahassee/Cottonwood Creeks watershed?
6. Of what value is current data from a small number of reopened 35 year old Cyprus monitoring wells?
7. Black Range installed piezometers in a number of exploration boreholes prior to their abandonment. I have never seen reference to a the actual number of them. Would you please disclose the number to me?

Thank you for your prompt attention and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Lee