

In Reply Refer To: LLCON050 3592 COC0118327-01

Natural Soda LLC. Attention: Kirk Daehling 3200 County Rd. 31 Rifle, Colorado 81650

Dear Mr. Daehling:

United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT White River Resource Area 220 East Market Meeker, Colorado 81641

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NOV 1 6 2015 GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE **DIVISION OF RECLAMATION MINING & SAFETY**

My staff has reviewed Natural Soda's (NS) September 4, 2015 letter informing us of the parted casing in the dissolution surface water monitoring well DS-4 and NS's proposal to cement back DS-4 for a conversion to a B-Groove water monitoring well. DS-4 is the re-completion of the exploration core hole 10H-C, which was drilled and cased through Boies Bed mining horizon. NS surmises the parted casing is the result of the well design in which the casing was cemented through the mining horizon. Removal of the nahcolite in the mining horizon near the well bore resulted in the collapse of the formation immediately above the mining horizon. When the collapse occurred the cemented casing within the collapsed section pulled the casing and created the partings. The majority of NS's remaining dissolution surface monitoring wells are not completed in this manner. DS-4 is also utilized as a subsurface subsidence monitoring hole by comparing gamma geophysical logs.

The request to convert the DS-4 to a B-Groove monitoring well by plugging back to the base of B-Groove and perforating across the interval is approved. Please submit a report of the completion process and activities upon completion of the conversion.

A replacement for the DS-4 subsurface subsidence monitoring is still in consideration.

If there any questions, please contact Paul Daggett Mining Engineer at (970) 878-3819.

Sincerely, ELMMC Kent Walter Field Manager

Travis Marshall Grand Junction Field Office Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 101South 3rd, Suite 301 Grand Junction, CO 81501

Daub & Associates, Inc. 1985¹/₂ South Broadway Grand Junction, CO 81507-9649

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