

# RECEIVED

DEC 29 2015

GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE  
DIVISION OF  
RECLAMATION MINING & SAFETY

12-15-15

Amy Yeldell  
DRMS  
Grand Junction, CO

Re: in response to your letter dated 12/10/15 concerning the Vermillion creek barrow area File No. 2015-027

## 6.3.1

- 1) Location of the main entrance to the site is N40°46'13.8463" and W108°50'42.2821".

## 6.3.2

- A) BLM has been contacted and we are waiting for a reply about the existing vegetation currently on site.
- B) There is a stockyard fence located within 200 feet of the boundary of the site owned by permit applicant John Raftopoulos.
- C) Description of Vermillion creek and its alignment running through the permit area is under consideration of the Army Corps of Engineers and is currently in the process of a 404 permit scheduled for completion approx. January of 2016.

## 6.3.3

- A) Proposed start date of reclamation is December of 2015 or upon approval of permit proposed date of completion is June of 2016. Reclamation will be completed over the entire 3.5 acre site upon approval of the 404 permit currently under consideration of the Army Corps of Engineers.
- B) No material was salvaged during original disturbance. If any topsoil is needed to complete the reclamation it will be obtained from private property off site. No topsoil will be stockpiled on site.
- E) The road depicted on the map was existing and the bridge shown replaced a culvert that was existing. No other structures were built on the site.
- F) The dimensions of the permitted area covers the barrow area plus any area that was filled with barrow area material for the bridge abutments.
- G) The existing road being used being used and there was a bridge constructed to replace an existing culvert. Vermillion creek was realigned and will be restored under a pending 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers.
- I) Any impacts from the realignment of Vermillion creek will be addressed with the 404 permit from the Army Corp of Engineers.
- J) Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit is pending and work in the riparian area will not commence until permit approval.

N) Dirt was mined prior to getting the DRMS permit and was used for the bridge abutments.

#### 6.3.4

- A) BLM has been contacted and we are waiting for a response for there stipulations concerning the reclamation. Work in the barrow area will be done upon approval of DRMS permit, any work in the riparian area will be done only after approval of ACOE 404 permit.
  - B) .
  - C) (i) No plant medium was salvaged at time of excavation if any extra topsoil is needed for the reclamation then it will be imported from an offsite private property source. Riparian areas will be treated in accordance with the ACOE 404 permit that is pending. No soil sampling is intended at this time.
    - (ii) Seeding will be done in accordance with BLM stipulations, that are pending. Discing of soil prior to seeding will be done. Fertilizer will be used to promote plant growth.
    - (iii) BLM has been contacted and we are waiting on their recommendations for seeding. Seed for the riparian areas will be determined by the ACOE 404 permit that is pending.
    - (v) BLM has been contacted and seeding will be done under their recommendations.
  - D) Access road into site will be reduced to the original two track. The bridge will be removed and replaced with the original culvert once the creek is realigned to specifications of the ACOE.
  - E) Any silt fence or other erosion control materials will be removed upon completion of reclamation. Creek realignment and riparian area reclamation will be done under the direction of the ACOE and the EPA under approved 404 permit that is currently pending and will be provided to the DRMS upon approval. Weed spraying will occur throughout the reclamation.
- 2)
- a) Push distances are calculated at approximately 100' – 200'. Discing of seed bed will be performed at a cost of \$1200. Topsoil will be replaced at a depth of 6" and any extra topsoil that is not on site will come from private property.
  - b) Cost of the bridge demo is \$2000. Estimated yards for realigning Vermillion creek is 500 cu.yds. although this is very hard to determine for the fact that we don't know what the ACOE is going to require.