



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



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JAN 06 2016
GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE
DIVISION OF
RECLAMATION MINING & SAFETY

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

Dear Mr. Daehling:

We have reviewed your August 12, 2015 requests to convert the existing O-GMW-A monitor well to a water supply well (WSW-5) and construct a water pipeline from WSW-5 to WSW-3. The proposed project is located in the 6th P.M., Township 1 South, Range 98 West, Section 27, Lot 16, Section 34, Lot 1, and Section 35, Lot 4. This project is considered to be a minor modification to Natural Soda LLC's (NS) approved Mine Plan and Environmental Monitoring Plan and is approved with the following conditions of approval (COA). Please take special notice of COA Numbers 8 and 9.

1. All activities shall comply with NS's approved reclamation and Mine Plan. Including the following seed mix:

Reclamation Seed Species List

Species	Variety	Pounds Pure Live Seed/Acre
Grasses		
Thickspike wheatgrass	Critana	0.5
Streambank wheatgrass	Sodar	0.5
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	1.0
Bluebunch wheatgrass	Whitmar (<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> spp. <i>inermis</i>)	1.0
Basin wildrye	Magnar	0.5
Needle and thread grass	(<i>Hesperostipa comata</i> spp. <i>comata</i>)	1.0
Green needlegrass	Common or Lodorm	2.0
Forbs		

Lewis flax	Appar	0.2
Cicer milkvetch	Monarch*	0.5
Alfalfa	50% Ladak*	0.75
	50% Nomad*	0.75
Scarlet globemallow	VNS or common	0.2
Rocky Mountain Penstemon	Bandera	0.2
Shrubs		
Fourwing saltbush	Rincon (dewinged)	1.5
Winterfat	VNS or common	0.5
Antelope bitterbrush	VNS or common	1.0
* preinoculated	Total	12.1

2. NS is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
3. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. NS will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. NS, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
4. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), NS must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
5. NS is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.
6. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, NS or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove

the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

7. Notify our office at a minimum of 24 hours prior to the commencement of construction, drilling and reclamation activities.
8. Right-of-way preparation and pipeline installation activities are not permitted from December 1 to April 30.
9. The applicant shall employ practices that deter unregulated public vehicle use and the development of well-defined vehicle tracks along the power line/pipeline corridor extending east from the WPX 22-27-198 location to the NS WSW-3 well. This corridor shall not be used by the applicant for routine access to the NS WSW-5 well

Additional bonding to include the estimated reclamation costs of the proposed pipeline will be required prior to the commencement of construction activities. This additional bonding requirement will be determined in coordination with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. If there any questions, please contact Paul Daggett Mining Engineer at (970) 878-3819.

Sincerely,


FOR Kent Walter
Field Manager

cc:

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

Daub & Associates, Inc.
1985½ South Broadway
Grand Junction, CO 81507-9649