

**COLORADO** Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

March 31, 2015

Don Marr Yuma County 1310 S. Blake St. Wray, CO 80758

# RE: Follow-up Adequacy Letter; Meeks Pit; DRMS Permit No. M-2015-049

Dear Mr. Marr,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) has reviewed the content of your 112c permit application adequacy response for the Meeks Pit, received on March 25, 2016, and submits the following comments. **The Division is required to make an approval or denial decision no later than April 18, 2016; therefore, a response to the following adequacy review concerns should be submitted to the Division as soon as possible.** In order to allow the Division adequate time to review your responses to the adequacy issues, please submit your adequacy responses to the Division no later than April 13<sup>th</sup>.

1. As required by Rule 1.6.2(d) and 1.6.5(2), the Division received a copy of the public notice from the Applicant on February 23, 2015. In addition, submit a notarized statement or receipt from the newspaper stating which dates the notice was published.

## 2.- 4.: Adequate as submitted

**5.** The Entrance Road Map submitted as a part of the response for adequacy item #5 did not include the owner's name of the structure identified on the map as required by Rule 6.4.3(g). The map was also was not dated and did not show the permit boundary as required by Rule 6.2.1(2). Please update this map with the required information and include the "30" wide x 200 ft. long" access road permit boundary. Additionally this map, shows a cattle guard identified at the entrance that was not observed during the pre-operational inspection. Clarify this and explain if the cattle guard will be removed with final reclamation of the site.

### 6.- 10.: Adequate as submitted

- **11.** The minor terraces discussed in the Reclamation Plan appear to be cross-contour drainage ditches as identified on the Reclamation Plan Map. Clarify if the Applicant will install level terraces or drainage control ditches, if necessary during reclamation.
- **12.** The reclamation seed mixture submitted as a part of the adequacy response does not match the seed mixture in the original application. Clarify which seed mixture the Applicant intends to use and provide the seeding rate (PLS) of each species or the entire seed mixture.
- 13.- 15.: Adequate as submitted
- **16.** The Reclamation Plan Map submitted in response to adequacy item #16 is titled "Exhibit D Post Mining". Revise this to "Exhibit F Reclamation Plan Map". Additionally, the red permit boundary on this map needs to be updated to depict access road boundary.



Don Marr March 31, 2016 Page **2** of **2** 

#### 17.-18.: Adequate as submitted

- 19. Provide a new Soils Map with the correct permit boundary identified.
- **20.** The Division believes there is a typo with the response for adequacy item #20; "exhibit O" should be changed to "Exhibit J".
- 21.: Adequate as submitted
- **22.** Please note that any changes or additions to the application on file in our office must also be reflected in the public review copy, which was placed with the Yuma County Clerk and Recorder by the Applicant. Submit proof that the public review copy has been updated with a copy of the response to this adequacy letter.
- 23.: Adequate as submitted

### **ADDITIONAL**

**23.** The applicant provided coordinates for the 5 boundary corners of the proposed site. After further review, the Division has determined that these coordinates show a permit boundary of 243 acres (with an additional .14 acres for the access road); clarify if these coordinates are correct. If they are, please submit an updated Page 1 of the Application and an updated Exhibit A narrative revising 280.2 to the correct acreage.

Please note: since this is a decrease in the proposed acreage, the Division will allow this change as a part of the adequacy review process. If this was an increase of the proposed acreage, the Division would require an amendment to the application on file.

This concludes the Division's adequacy review of this application and the adequacy responses. This letter shall not be interpreted to mean that there are no other technical deficiencies in your application. Other issues may arise as additional information is supplied. Be advised that the 112c permit application for the Meeks pit permit may be deemed inadequate, and the application may be denied on April 18, 2016, unless the above mentioned adequacy review items are addressed to the satisfaction of the Division. If more time is needed to complete the reply, the Division can grant an extension to the decision date. This will be done upon receipt of a written waiver of the Applicant's right to a decision by April 18, 2016 and the request for a specific amount of additional time. This must be received no later than the deadline date.

If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at <u>elliott.russell@state.co.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Elliott R. Russell Environmental Protection Specialist

CC:

Wally Erickson, Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety