



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Cunningham - DNR, Michael <michaela.cunningham@state.co.us>

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF 112C CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS RECLAMATION PERMIT RELEASE REQUEST CONSIDERATION FOR THE BLUESTONE PIT, PERMIT NO. M-1991-035 – SL01

1 message

Serio, Nicole <Nicole.Serio@ee.doe.gov>

Wed, Nov 16, 2016 at 4:32 PM

To: "michaela.cunningham@state.co.us" <michaela.cunningham@state.co.us>, "michael.cunningham@state.co.us" <michael.cunningham@state.co.us>

Cc: "Higaki, Henry (NREL)" <henry.higaki@nrel.gov>, "Eickhoff, John (NREL)" <john.eickhoff@nrel.gov>, "Braus, Genevieve (NREL)" <genevieve.braus@nrel.gov>, "Nixon, Steve (NREL)" <steve.nixon@nrel.gov>, "Cummock, Bret (NREL)" <bret.cummock@nrel.gov>, "Passarelli, Derek" <Derek.Passarelli@ee.doe.gov>, "Meeks, Timothy" <Timothy.Meeks@ee.doe.gov>, "Hooker, Doug" <Doug.Hooker@ee.doe.gov>, "Collette, Greg" <Greg.Collette@ee.doe.gov>, "Dins, Randy" <Randy.Dins@ee.doe.gov>, "Walters, Patty" <Patty.Walters@ee.doe.gov>, "Sweeney, Robin" <robin.sweeney@ee.doe.gov>, "Margason, Laura" <laura.margason@ee.doe.gov>, "Serio, Nicole" <Nicole.Serio@ee.doe.gov>, GO Records <Records@ee.doe.gov>

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

The attached letter is in response to your correspondence dated November 2, 2016 regarding Lafarge West, Inc.'s request for full reclamation responsibility release for the Bluestone Pit, Permit No. M-1995-035. The U.S. Department of Energy appreciates the opportunity to comment on the release request. A hard copy of the attached letter will be sent to you via surface mail tomorrow morning (11/17/2016).

If you would please send me a message letting me know that you have received this email and attachment I would appreciate it.

Should you have any questions, please contact Laura Margason at (720) 365-1322 or [Laura.Margason@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Laura.Margason@ee.doe.gov).

Respectfully,

**Nicole Serio, Ph.D.**

*Environmental Specialist*

U.S. Department of Energy

Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

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## Department of Energy

Golden Field Office  
15013 Denver West Parkway  
Golden, Colorado 80401

November 16, 2016

Michael A. Cunningham  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman St. Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF 112C CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS  
RECLAMATION PERMIT RELEASE REQUEST CONSIDERATION FOR THE BLUESTONE  
PIT, PERMIT NO. M-1991-035 – SL01

Dear Mr. Cunningham,

This letter is in response to your correspondence to Ms. Laura Margason of my staff dated November 2, 2016 regarding Lafarge West, Inc.'s request for full reclamation responsibility release for the Bluestone Pit, Permit No. M-1991-035 (Bluestone Pit). The majority of the Bluestone Pit is on land that belongs to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated as the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. The Bluestone Pit sits adjacent to and on a portion of land that is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) containing DOE's National Wind Technology Center (NWTC). The comments included herein concern the NWTC lands and are provided for your consideration.

Lafarge submitted a Technical Revision to the 112c mining permit M-1991-035 (TR04) on July 31, 2014 to address issues from a fall 2013 flooding event. Due to heavy rains, the existing pre 1981 pit/pond breached and released floodwater and debris, causing damage to the NWTC. The revisions to the Reclamation Plan were submitted to address this issue and to prevent future reoccurrence.

Although DOE understands that the flood event in 2013 was an extreme event, the NWTC contains valuable infrastructure for performing its critical research and it is important to ensure the site is protected as much as possible from future flooding events. As such, DOE requests the full reclamation release for the Bluestone Pit be withheld until documentation is received by DOE demonstrating satisfactory completion of the post fall 2013 flood construction work, as outlined in TR04. Specifically, DOE requests engineering approvals to validate:

1. The channel on the south end of the existing pre 1981 pit/pond was built in accordance with good engineering practices and the TR04 Reclamation Plan specifications.
2. The area of berm on the north end of the existing pre 1981 pit/pond damaged in the fall 2013 flood was re-built in accordance with good engineering practices and the TR04 Reclamation Plan specifications.

3. The area of berm of the existing pre 1981 pit/pond that was elevated after the fall 2013 flood was done in accordance with good engineering practices and the TR04 Reclamation Plan specifications.

The requested engineering approvals can be in the form of an engineer's documented observations during construction or other appropriate documentation, such as an as built drawing or PE certification.

DOE wishes to express our appreciation to Lafarge in their reclamation efforts and for our continued good working relationship. Please contact Laura Margason with any questions or concerns regarding these comments at (240) 562-1322 or [Laura.Margason@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Laura.Margason@ee.doe.gov).

Sincerely,



Derek G. Passarelli  
Director, Golden Field Office

cc: via email:  
Henry Higaki, NREL  
John Eickhoff, NREL  
Genevieve Braus, NREL  
Steve Nixon, NREL  
Bret Cummock, NREL  
Tim Meeks, GO  
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