

December 20, 2016

Cork Powell
Cecil Powell
P.O. Box 23
Dinosaur, CO 81610



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Powell's Gravel Pit, File No. M-1995-012, Technical Revision (TR-1) Adequacy Review

Dear Mr. Powell:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) has received your technical revision (TR-1) request. During review of the material submitted, the Division determined that the following issue(s) of concern shall be adequately addressed before the revision can be considered for approval.

1. Please include a statement that all slopes once disturbed will be reclaimed to a grade no steeper than 2:1. If necessary overburden will be placed as backfilled to achieve this slope. Generally slopes will be shallower than a 2:1 when possible.
2. Staff cannot read the estimated slope text of map E5. Please clarify based on existing site conditions the amount of slopes that will need to be graded to a 2:1. Please note that the Division calculates based on CY of material needing to be graded. You may provide slope grade, height and length that needs grading or a total volume figure. The Division acknowledges that final slopes may be gentler than a 2:1 however based on the proposed plan the Division will only bond for bringing slopes to a 2:1.
3. Please include a statement that if topsoil volume is found insufficient for reclamation that the necessary volume of overburden will be supplemented to achieve 4" of topsoil over the entire disturbed area. Several supplements are stated on page 40 #6. To make the bond more accurate you may want to specify what type of material and how much will be applied.
4. The narrative states that roads will need to be ripped 18-24". How many acres of roads will be removed? Please display on a map which roads will be removed verses which will remain.
5. Acreages in the narrative and on Map E1 do not coincide or add up to 9.9 acres.
 - a. Please clarify of the 9.9 acre permit how many acres have been affected to date, how many acres may be mined in the future and what land will never be mined. *You may consider requesting an acreage release for lands you plan on never mining and have yet to disturbed.
 - b. Please specify of the affected lands how much is actively disturbed by mining and will need reclaimed, how much will remain as storage and not require reclamation and how much has already been reclaimed.
 - c. Please update your map to depict the items above. If necessary use several maps.



6. Based on the varying topography of the site, for simplicity the Division will assume seeding will be broadcasted. If you disagree please provide the number of acres that can effectively be drill seeded and the number of acres that will use hand/broadcast.
7. To increase reclamation success the Division recommends that all reclaimed areas are mulched with straw or hay at 2 tons/acre and crimped into place.
8. In several places noxious weeds are mentioned. Rather than suggesting that weeds be monitored and treated please include a commitment to manage weeds and weed management plan that can be applied throughout the life of the mine.

Please submit your response(s) to the above listed issue(s) by Tuesday, January 03, 2017 in order to allow the Division sufficient time for review. Currently the decision due date is January 11, 2017. If you need additional time please request an extension prior to the decision due date or your revision may be denied.

If you require additional information, or have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

Sincerely,



Amy Yeldell

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Cc:
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