

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

March 2, 2017

Matt Carnahan Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba Four Corners Materials P.O. Box 1969 Bayfield, CO 81122

## Re: South Fork #1 Pit, File No. M-2017-004, 111 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application, Second Adequacy Review

Dear Mr. Carnahan:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS) has reviewed the response to the preliminary adequacy review submitted on February 28, 2017 by the Operator for the above referenced 111c permit application. A review of the Operators response has revealed a few more clarifications and issues that need to be addressed.

- 1) Per Rule 6.3.3(b), please clarify whether or not the plant growth medium (topsoil) will be reapplied over a regraded area immediately after it is salvaged. If not please specify how topsoil will be stockpiled and stabilized with a vegetative cover or means until used in reclamation.
  - The Operator stated that annual rye and triticale will be used to stabilize the topsoil stockpiles. Both grass species proposed for topsoil stabilization are annuals. If the topsoil is to be stored for multiple growing seasons perennial grass species must be added to the seed mix. If this is the case please include a seed mix with at least three (3) perennial grass species for stabilization of the topsoil stockpiles.
- 2) 6.3.3(g) states that hauling operations will dictate some temporary improvements during the short term of this project. Are the mentioned improvements within the proposed permit boundary?
  - Response adequate.



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- 3) 6.3.3(l) addresses measures taken to minimize distrubance3 to the hydraulic balance. What measures will be taken to prevent off site damage and provide a stable during and after mining occurs?
  - Response adequate.
- 4) 6.3.3(n) states future processed materials may include aggregates for hot asphalt and base courses. Please clarify if the application is proposing an asphalt plant.
  - If the Operator gains approval from the county to allow for the use of a <u>portable</u> hot mix asphalt plant it can be approved for use through this application process. If any components of the asphalt plant require permanent structures to be built to support the hot mix asphalt plant a technical revision and likely additional reclamation bonding will be required.

This application cannot be approved until the issues brought forth are adequately addressed. Please submit a response to the issues as soon as possible, but no later than March 6, 2017 so the decision due date set for March 9, 2017 can be met. If your response or a written extension request are not received by March 6, 2017 this application may be denied.

If you need additional information, please contact me at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 S. 3rd St., Suite 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, telephone no. 970.241.2042.

Sincerely,

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Travis Marshall Environmental Protection Specialist

ec: Russ Means, DRMS