



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

March 14, 2017

Mr. Kirk Daehling
Natural Soda, Inc.
3200 RBC Road 31
Rifle, CO 81650

**Re: Natural Soda, Inc., Nahcolite Project, Permit No.M-1983-194, Notice of Requirement of
Amendment Application**

Dear Mr. Daehling,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS) and Daub & Associates, Inc. (D&A) had a meeting on February 24, 2017 to discuss historical and active well pads and associated mining related infrastructure that supports the Natural Soda, Inc. (NSI) Nahcolite Project that are outside of the currently approved permit area. Historically the DRMS mining permit area and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lease boundaries were consistent. A recent change of the BLM sodium lease boundary was completed which incorporates the historical and current disturbance outside of the currently approved DRMS permitted area. The focus of the February 24, 2017 meeting was to discuss options to modify the NSI permit area to incorporate all mine related disturbance and allow room for future expansion of the mining operation.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit area consists of 12,700 acres which extends out ¼ mile from the current BLM lease area. D&A proposed to modify the DRMS permit area to be consistent with the EPA UIC permit area. DRMS agrees with this proposal and an amendment to expand the acreage from 8,223.00 to 12,700.00 acres is required to update the permit acreage and bring the operation back into compliance. Due to some of the disturbance outside of the approved permit area dating back as early as the late 1980's and early 1990's this is not considered an enforcement action at this time. To avoid enforcement action NSI must submit an amendment to expand the permit acreage to encompass all mining related disturbance no later than 90 days from the date of this correspondence.

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,

Travis Marshall
Environmental Protection Specialist



Mr. Bob Daehling
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ec: Russ Means, DRMS

cc: Paul Daggett
BLM - White River Field Office
220 East Market Street
Meeker, CO 81641

Gerald Daub
Daub & Associates, Inc.
1985 ½ South Broadway
Grand Junction, CO 81507