



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

June 2, 2017

Mr. Jerald Schnabel
Transit Mix Concrete Co.
444 East Costilla
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

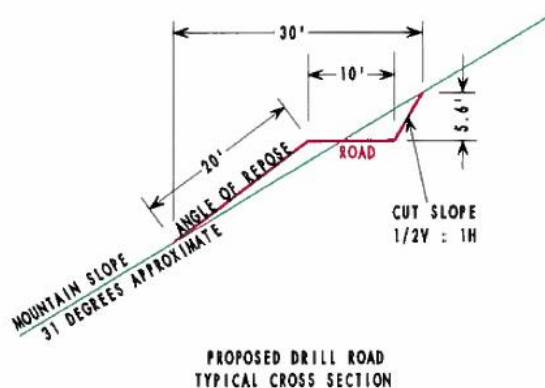
**Re: Hitch Rack Ranch, Notice of Intent to Prospect ID No. P-2017-003;
Notice of Deficiencies**

Dear Mr. Schnabel:

On May 25, 2017 the Division of Reclamation, Mining and (Division) received your application for Notice of Intent to Conduct Exploration Operations (NOI) in El Paso County. The Division has reviewed the NOI application for deficiencies. Please address the following items:

Application:

1. Item 4, Description of Lands / Estimated acreage of land surface to be affected – The application indicates a total of one acre are to be affected. However, Items 7 and 8 (p. 2) don't distinguish how much of this one acre disturbance will be new road, pad, or other disturbance. Please provide a break down in terms of area (pad dimensions, new road width and length, etc.) for the purpose of bond estimate.
2. Type of Operation – Item 7 (p.2) does not describe the road disturbance, nor specific road reclamation measures. If the Division assumes the typical road width is 10 feet, and the road is in steep terrain as depicted below, the total affected area may be greater than one acre. Please provide a discussion on road/pad reclamation in the steep terrain.



Note: The Division considers the area which receives cast material to be affected area and affects the bond estimate.



3. Reclamation Measures – Item 8 (p. 2) does not provide expected depths of the proposed 6-inch holes, nor does it discuss the abandonment method for the five CMT monitoring wells or the VWP well. No seed mix or other revegetation methods were included in the reclamation measures. Please provide the following:
 - a. A discussion on permanent abandonment for the six holes,
 - b. An anticipated depth for each of the six holes, as it will be needed for the bond estimate,
 - c. A seed mix with pounds per acre of pure live seed for each species to be used in reclamation,
 - d. A thickness estimate of the available topsoil/vegetative media in the area of proposed disturbance that will be salvaged and stockpiled for reclamation.
 - e. A planned method to prepare the seed bed and apply the seed (broadcast, seed drill, etc.).
4. Supplemental Forms – Included with the application was a signed form for exploration on BLM lands. The Division is under the impression that this will take place on private land. Please clarify whether or not any federal minerals or surface is involved in the proposed activity.

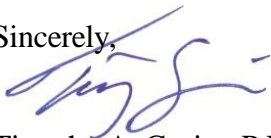
Financial Warranty:

Please note the Division will estimate a cost to reclaim the site based on the application and your response to the adequacy review issues above. Please be reminded that the proposed prospecting operations identified in the current modification application may not commence until the adequacy issues are addressed and the bond is submitted and approved by the Division.

Please provide a written response to address the above deficiencies within 60 days of this notice (August 1, 2017) or the Division may deny the modification application.

If you have any questions, please contact me (303-866-3567 ext. 8169).

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Cazier, P.E.

Environmental Protection Specialist

cc: DRMS file
Wally Erickson, DRMS
Amy Eschberger, DRMS