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JAN 23 2018

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY**

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

I am in support of the approval of the Colorado Milling Company's Application to get an Amendment for the Gold Hill Mill Permit No. M-1994-117. I have lived in the Gold Hill area for more than forty years and I am very aware of the benefits of having this gold mill under new management.

I worked for Colorado Milling Company for more than a year, and was involved in their successful efforts to clean up the mill site after it was abandoned by the previous operator. There were four junked trucks and more than thirty used tires left on the property. Trashed equipment and old machinery were all over the place. It filled three large scrap metal bins and took more than a dozen trips to the Boulder dump to just clean up the outdoor area around the Gold Hill Mill. I was also involved with the clean up and restoration inside the Gold Hill Mill. This involved months of cleaning up the mess left behind by Mount Royal Ventures the past operators. Many months were involved in repairing the milling machinery that had been operated without proper knowledge and management. One example of this is how they left the large thickener tank. This tank was half filled with waste mud and inoperable. It took more than four weeks to empty this tank and another couple of weeks to sandblast the rust off the inside of this tank. I only mention these things, because I want people to know that there is a new attitude in place at this site. The Colorado Milling Company is committed to having a first class operation at the Gold Hill Mill.

I am also familiar with the benefit that the citizens of this area have because of the Conservation Easements that Boulder County's Parks and Open Space Department have on this historic mining area. The Conservation Easements clearly define what the property owners can do with their mining claims. Everything that the Colorado Milling Company is doing is part of an agreement with Boulder County. This includes all of the items included in the Permit Amendment. The pumping station and the water pipeline are all on an Easement retained by the mill owners for the purpose of legally pumping water from Left Hand Creek for use in the Gold Hill Mill.

Based upon my own experience, I am sure that the Colorado Milling Company will operate the mill and mines that it owns in a good professional and fully legal manner. Please keep this in mind when you review this Permit Amendment.

Thank you,

Dirk Arnold, GRI