



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

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

April 16, 2018

John Icabone
High Altitude Gravel LLC
3000 11th Street
Boulder, CO 80304

RE: Wilson Placer; DRMS File No. P-2018-004; Adequacy Review No. 1

Dear Mr. Icabone,

On March 2, 2018, the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) received the Notice of Intent to Conduct Prospecting (NOI) Application for the Wilson Placer, File No. P-2018-004. Our review indicates the Application contains deficiencies as defined by Rule 5.1.3 of the Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Hard Rock, Metal, and Designated Mining Operations. The Division requires the information described below before we can approve the NOI Application.

1. The Applicant has stated water will be pumped from the prospecting pits for use in the trommel. Pursuant to Rule 3.1.6(1), disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic balance shall be minimized through compliance with applicable Colorado water laws and regulations governing injury to existing water rights. Therefore, the Applicant may not expose or consume groundwater without first obtaining a well permit and a temporary substitute water supply plan (SWSP). Please clarify if the Applicant has or will obtain a well permit and a SWSP from the Office of the State Engineer. If the Applicant will not obtain the necessary approval for exposing and consuming groundwater, then the application must be revised to clearly state groundwater will not be exposed. In addition, excavations be limited to a depth of two feet above the static water level, which has been identified as less than 5' below the ground surface.
2. Please identify a legal source of water to be used for the processing of alluvial gravels. In addition, specify the total amount of water required for the proposed prospecting activities.
3. Please describe where the water from the trommel will be discharged to and describe how you will ensure water and sediment does not enter the Slater Ditch or the North Branch of Park Gulch.



4. The Applicant is proposing to conduct bulk sampling at 6 different locations. Please clarify if the material to be tested at each bulk sampling location consists of wash rock from historic mining activities and the native material below the wash rock. Or will the prospect pits be excavated on unaffected areas?
5. The Applicant provided several photographs of topsoil stockpiles near the prospecting locations. Please clarify if the topsoil was stripped and stockpiled during the historic mining of the property. In addition, clarify if topsoil to be used during reclamation will come from the stockpiles or if it will be salvaged from unaffected areas.
6. Please verify the Slater Ditch and the North Branch of Park Gulch are intermittent streams.
7. Please describe the timing of backfilling the prospect pits, i.e. will the pits be backfilled concurrently or will backfilling occur once all excavation is complete?"
8. Specify the dimensions of the prospect pits. (see additional comments under Item No. 1)
9. The Applicant has specified 1 acre of land will be affected by the proposed prospecting activities. Please provide an accounting of the various types of disturbance which comprise the 1 acre of land to be affected. (see additional comments under Item No. 8)

Be advised that if these items have not been addressed within 60 days of the date of this letter (June 15, 2018), the Division may terminate the NOI application in accordance with Rule 5.1.3(c) of the Hard Rock Rules. Please remember to designate as appropriate those materials in the application that you desire to be made confidential versus those to be made public.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (303)866-3567 x8116.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike C.", is written over the typed name.

Michael A. Cunningham
Environmental Protection Specialist

CC: Wally Erickson, DRMS