

October 22, 2018

Sylece Andromeda
PO Box 598
Cripple Creek, CO 80813
(719) 393-5982
Sylece@aol.com

Tim Cazier
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, & Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Cazier,

I am reaching out as a concerned citizen with an information request concerning Newmont's Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine (Permit # M-1980-244). I have been in communication with Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mine (CC&V) off and on since 1994 and for the duration of that time, regardless of which company was operating the project, have had difficulty getting various information I was told I would receive. This time is no different. However, instead of letting it pass as I have in the past, I am reaching out to others who may be able to assist me.

I'd like to preface by letting it be known I am not anti-mining. In fact, much the opposite. My family, including myself, has had four generations working in the mining industry in Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Alaska. I am very much a proponent of responsible, environmentally safe mining. The fact that it required a State inspector to reveal the liner infraction in the winter of 2018, which CC&V was legally obligated to report, coupled with CC&V's refusal to present that information to the local community has undermined my confidence in their integrity and transparency. In looking at public documents online, I became further concerned by issues like the State's uncertainty about the vibration the high grade mill creates in the 125' base that comprises part of the SGVLF and the potential for future liner failure.

In coming forward to you, the State, I feel I risk the animosity and ostracization of some of my community and the entity known as CC&V Gold Mining. As the mine is a large employer and tax payer, for a variety of reasons some local residents feel afraid to speak out about what could be perceived as potentially questionable practices. However, the issues compel me to proceed in spite of potential risks and as such, some of the questions I've included do not stem from me personally, but rather from those who have asked me to speak on their behalf.

I am hoping the State of Colorado is able to assist a local citizen. I understand that not everything falls under Division of Reclamation, Mining, & Safety's (DRMS) jurisdiction, thus I have copied Colorado Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) and the Water Commissioner for District 2, as well as CC&V Gold Mining so they may also be apprised of my request to you.

1. As they are a matter of public record, I would like to request that a copy of Permit M-1980-244, as well as Amendments 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, & 12 be added to DRMS's Laserfiche system as I am unable to find any of the aforementioned amongst the variety of Technical Revisions, inspection reports, and reports from CC&V that are hosted on Laserfiche.

2. Pursuant to permit M-1980-244, CC&V is obliged to sample seven surface water locations, as well as various ground water compliance locations, on a quarterly basis. I am requesting the data for the Period of Record. This includes GV-01 surface location that is no longer monitored.
3. Following CC&V's movement into Poverty Gulch, and the Schist Island Pit, the town of Cripple Creek has experienced not only a significant increase in noise, but also in visible particulate emissions. I would like to request a copy of all Air Quality monitoring data from the area, particularly silica, nitrogen oxides (NOX), sulphur oxides (SOX), and PM-10. If there is no data, I would like to be informed as to why a large mining project in near proximity to towns is neglecting to monitor for dust emissions.
4. Arequa Gulch Valley Leach Fill (AGVLF) Pad permitted elevation and as-built elevation, Squaw Gulch Valley Leach Fill (SGVLF) permitted elevation and as-built elevation, as well as permitted elevations and as-builts for the East Cresson Overburden Storage Area (ECOSA).
5. Where is CC&V's current vibration compliance monitoring being conducted in Cripple Creek and is any monitoring being conducted of structures within the City, or were any pre-blast surveys performed? Where is CC&V's current dust compliance monitoring being conducted in Cripple Creek?
6. In Colorado, and the Western US in general, water use is a large issue. I know that CC&V brings water to site. I am requesting the amount of water brought to site for water years 2016, 2017, and 2018. I understand that CC&V may not disclose the quantities of water once it enters the site; however, I believe it is my right as a citizen of the area to be aware of the quantities of water they use monthly.
7. On the morning of October 16, 2018, viewing from the front porch of my home, I observed multiple large fountains of what I presume to be cyanide solution spraying from the top of AGVLF. I know the bench heights are approximately 100 ft, and from the picture it would appear that one of the sprays is at least 50 feet high. In the past I have gone about this assuming that it is as permitted; however, after reviewing the documents on Laserfiche and learning that there may be no ponding larger than 3 ft by 3 ft, I am concerned about potential environmental and health hazards associated with large cyanide sprays and how far wind is able to carry them. (Please see associated photographs taken from my porch.)
8. Questions I asked of CC&V's Mr. Brad Poulson in April 2018, which he summarized in a May 30th email and have yet to be addressed consist of: Where is CC&V's current vibration compliance monitoring being conducted in Cripple Creek and is any monitoring being conducted of structures within the City?; Where is CC&V's current dust compliance monitoring being conducted in Cripple Creek?; What is the permitted height/elevation of the VLF1 and what is the actual height elevation? Please reference attached copy of email from Mr. Poulson. No further communication was received from him regarding these questions.

I really appreciate the timely turn-around from DRMS and look forward to hearing from you soon about these concerns.

Thank you,

Sylece Andromeda

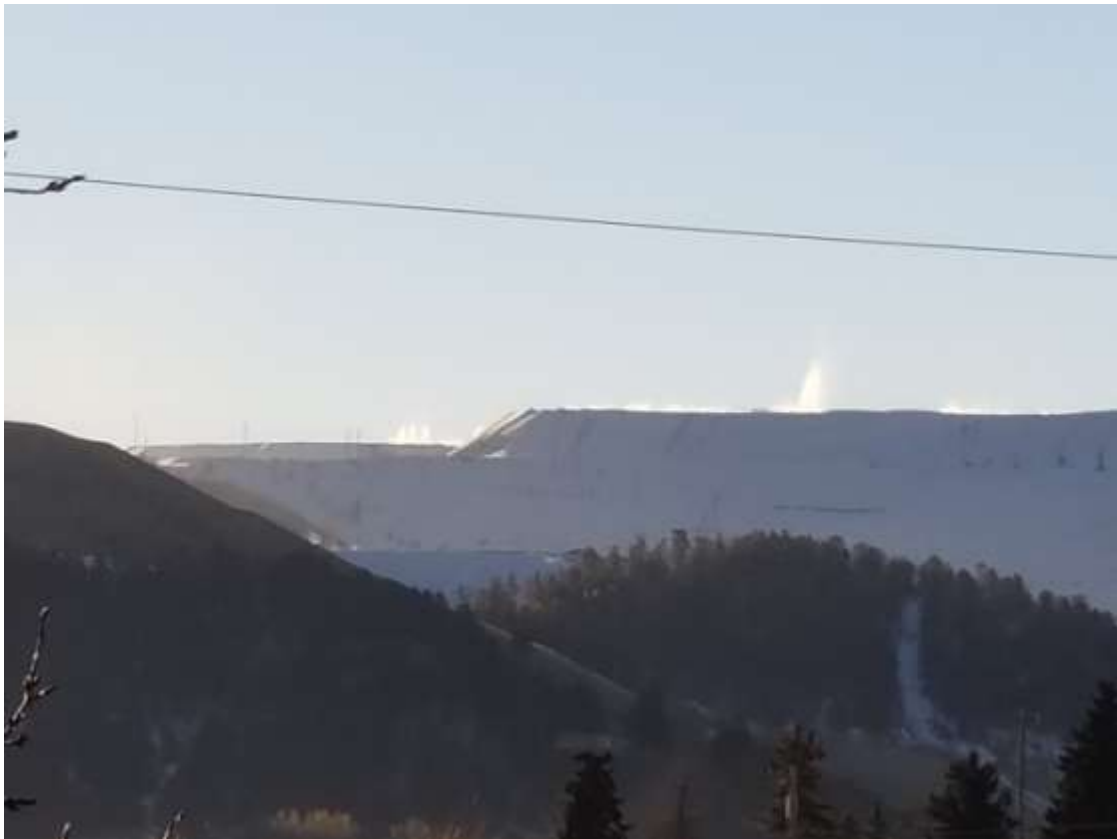
CC:

Tony Waldron, Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety via USPS

Chip Hancock, Construction Permits Colorado Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) via USPS

Steve Witte, Colorado Division of Water Division 2 Engineer via USPS

Brad Poulson, Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining via USPS



October 16, 2018 AGVLF Picture 1 taken at 8:06 A.M.



October 16, 2018 AGVLF Picture 2 taken at 12:18 P.M.

From: Brad Poulson <Bradley.Poulson@newmont.com>
To: sylece@aol.com <sylece@aol.com>
Subject: Newmont CC&V Follow Up Questions
Date: Wed, May 30, 2018 6:20 pm

Sylece,

My apologies for this taking so long!

What follows are from my notes and represent my interpretative drafts of the questions I thought you were asking (basically - the way I heard the question):

My house is west of 2nd Street in Cripple Creek, a significant distance from CC&V mining operations on Globe Hill, but I am feeling the vibrations from your Globe Hill Blasts. Can you explain why?

Where is CC&V's current vibration compliance monitoring being done in Cripple Creek, and are you monitoring vibrations at any structures in the City?

Where is CC&V's current dust compliance monitoring being done in Cripple Creek?

I am familiar with potential problems with leach field liners on VLF2. How come you have not informed the community about these issues and the State of Colorado's review? Can you please explain this situation.

What is the permitted height/elevation of the VLF1 and what is the actual height elevation?

Sylece, can you please edit/change and add to them to get the questions you want answered, and submit them to me via email. I'll take them in your words to my management for answers. I hope this helps!

Brad