

Mr. Russ Means Minerals Program Director Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: JD-6 Mine, Permit No. M-1977-310; JD-7 Mine, Permit No. M-1979-094HR; JD-8 Mine, Permit No. M-1984-014; JD-9 Mine, Permit No. M-1977-306; SR-11 Mine, Permit No. M-1977-451; SR-13A Mine, Permit No. M-1977-311; SM-18 Mine, Permit No. M-1978-116; LP-21 Mine, Permit No. M-1977-305; CM-25 Mine, Permit No. M-1977-307; and Mineral Joe Mine, Permit No. M-1977-284

Dear Mr. Means:

This letter is written to advise that Cotter Corporation (N.S.L.) ("Cotter") is voluntarily placing each of the abovelisted mines (collectively, "Mines") into reclamation under the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act, C.R.S. §§ 34-32-101 to -127, and its implementing rules, and is no longer seeking a second five-year period of temporary cessation for each Mine.

This letter also confirms Cotter's understanding that the mining permit for each Mine will continue in effect through the completion of that Mine's reclamation and such time that the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board ("Board") releases Cotter or any successor operator from further reclamation obligations regarding the affected land, declares the operation terminated, and releases all applicable performance and financial warranties. C.R.S. §§ 34-32-103(6)(b), -109(5)(a); Hard Rock/Metal Mining Rule 1.13.8(1)(c).

Further, this letter confirms our prior discussions that Highbury Resources Inc. ("Highbury") has purchased and acquired from Cotter the underlying rights and obligations associated with each of the Mines, including the obligation to reclaim them. As we previously discussed, Cotter will enter into new leases with the U.S. Department of Energy for the Mines (except for the Mineral Joe Mine, which is not a mine on a DOE lease), and will transfer those leases to Highbury. As you are also aware, Highbury has initiated the succession of operator process with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety ("Division") to acquire Cotter's mining permits. The Division has indicated that there is nothing in its regulations that would prohibit the Division from approving the transfer of those permits to Highbury if the paperwork and bonds that Cotter and Highbury submit are acceptable to the Division.

To summarize, because Cotter is voluntarily placing each of the Mines into reclamation, it no longer seeks a second five-year period of temporary cessation for each Mine and withdraws its notices seeking a second five-year period of temporary cessation for each Mine effective today. Accordingly, there is no need for the Board to consider Cotter's notices regarding a second five-year period of temporary cessation for each Mine at the Board's February 19-20, 2020 monthly meeting. Cotter therefore understands that the Division will promptly vacate the February 19-20, 2020 hearing on these matters. Please advise me when such action has been taken.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at <u>ken.mushinski@cotterusa.com</u> or (720) 554-6207.

Very truly yours,

Ken Mushinski

Ken Mushinsk President