



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

February 4, 2020

Jessica Clinger  
USA Rare Earth LLC  
11423 W. I-70 Frontage Road N.  
Wheat Ridge, CO

RE: USA Rare Earth; DRMS File No. M-2020-011; Need for State Mine Reclamation Permit

Dear Ms. Clinger,

The Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety (Division) has specific Rules and Regulations for Hard Rock, Metal, and Designated Mining Operations, adopted by the Mined Land Reclamation Board in January 2015. These Rules are in accordance with the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act (Title 34 Article 32). It has come to the Division's attention that USA Rare Earth intends to open a rare earth processing facility in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. The Division has assigned permit ID number M-2020-011 to your facility. Please reference this permit ID number on any correspondence you submit to the Division.

As defined in the Act (34-32-103(8)), "mining operation" means the development or extraction of a mineral from its natural occurrences on affected land... The term "mining operation" also includes the following operations on affected land: transportation; concentrating; milling; evaporation; and other processing.

An approved reclamation permit may be required for your operation. The Division would like to speak with a representative from USA Rare Earth LLC so that we may better understand how your processing facility will operate and so that we may ensure that your facility has the necessary permits required by Colorado law.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at (303)866-3567 ext. 8116, or by email at [michaela.cunningham@state.co.us](mailto:michaela.cunningham@state.co.us).

Sincerely,

Michael A. Cunningham  
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

