



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

March 2, 2020

Jerry Daub
Natural Soda LLC
1985 ½ South Broadway
Grand Junction, CO 81507

**Re: Natural Soda LLC, Nacholite Project, Permit No. M-1983-194 – UPDATE to our January 28, 2020
Notice of Completion of Reclamation and Request for Release of Reclamation Responsibility**

Dear Mr. Daub;

The Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) received your request for a portion of the mine area to be designated as successfully reclaimed and released from future reclamation responsibility. The Division is unable to process your request as desired. Under Rule 4.17.2(5) if the Division determines that reclamation complies with the requirements of the Act, Rules and Regulations, and the approved reclamation plan, the Division shall release all applicable performance and financial warranties. The Division cannot formally release reclamation responsibility for a portion of the mine area if it is to remain permitted.

If Natural Soda LLC wishes to formally request an Acreage Reduction (AR) which would remove a portion of the mine area from the permit boundary. The release request needs to meet the requirements of Rule 4.17.1.

Additionally per Rule 4.17.2(2) the Division shall within sixty (60) calendar days after receiving said notice, or as soon thereafter as weather conditions permit, inspect the lands and reclamation described in the notice to determine if the Permittee has complied with all applicable requirements. The Division believes that current weather conditions, primarily snow cover and plant dormancy would prevent the Division from a reasonable inspection of reclamation successes. Therefore to adequately evaluate reclamation success an inspection should be scheduled when weather conditions allow, during the active growing season.

The Division can in a future inspection, evaluate reclamation success of specific areas and note such in the inspection report. This would allow the record to reflect that reclamation has been completed in specific areas while remaining permitted. The Division would like to note that the areas being requested for reclamation release do not have a financial warranty associated with them. Therefore the Division would only bond for these areas if the Operator redisturbed them.



If you require additional information, or have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 303-866-3567 Ext 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@ state.co.us

Sincerely,



Amy Yeldell

Environmental Protection Specialist

Cc:

Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

Kirk Daehling, Natural Soda President

Paul Daggett, White River Field Office BLM

Gerry Deschaine, Natural Soda EH&S Manager