



March 30, 2020

Tom Bird  
GCC Energy, LLC  
6473 County Road 120  
Hesperus, CO 81326

**Re: King Coal Mine, Permit C-1981-035,  
Final Review of the 2018 Annual Hydrology Report**

Dear Mr. Bird:

Based on Landon Beck's latest responses related to the review of the 2018 AHR (Technical Memorandum dated March 26, 2020), I have the following comments.

Mr. Beck makes the point (through reference to the CDS Environmental Services report from 2014) that higher pH values are due to high levels of bicarbonate, and that the relatively high levels of bicarbonate are indicative of the geology of the area around Vista de Oro. He also provides data from well cluster MW-5, a cluster related to an agreement with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. MW-5 is upgradient of the mine, and pH values in these wells are consistently above 8, sometimes above 8.5.

Based on this information, I am satisfied with GCC Energy's responses to my AHR review. As always, please feel free to call to discuss on the telephone or e-mail me with your comments and questions.

Regards,

Robert D. Zuber, P.E.  
Environmental Protection Specialist II

Cc: Sarah Vance, GCC Energy, via e-mail

