

Robert D. Zuber, P.E. Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety Department of Natural Resources 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Keenesburg Strip Mine (Permit No. C-1981-028) Technical Revision No.47 (TR-47) Update of Vegetation Standard (HC#70100)

Dear Mr. Zuber:

We received correspondence dated July 08, 2020 on July 17, 2020 initiating consultation with our office in accordance with the Colorado State Register Act (Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) 24-80.1).

After review of the documentation provided, we note that this technical revision will update the standard used to determine re-vegetation success. As this does not incorporate additional lands, this Technical Revision (TR-47) will have no adverse effect to historic properties listed to or eligible for listing to the State Register.

A search of the Colorado Cultural Resource Inventory database indicates that three cultural resource inventories have been conducted in or near the proposed permit area, and no properties of historical significance have been recorded therein. Please keep in mind that our files contain incomplete information for this area, as most of Colorado has not yet been inventoried for cultural resources. As a result, there is the possibility that as yet unidentified cultural resources exist within the proposed permit area. Should human remains be discovered during mining activities, the requirements under State law CRS 24-80 part 13 apply and must be followed

If the proposed mining plan revision involves Federal oversight please note that it is the responsibility of the Federal agencies involved to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as set forth in 36 CFR Part 800 ("Protection of Historic Properties"). This includes the identification of any historic properties within the area of potential effects and determining whether the undertaking will have an effect upon such properties. The State Historic Preservation Office, Native American tribes, representatives of local governments, and applicants for Federal permits, licenses or other approval are entitled to consultative roles in this process

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Holly McKee-Huth, Cultural Resource Information/Section 106 Compliance, at (303) 866-4670 or holly.mckee@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Steve Turner, AIA

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ally Kathyn Noop