



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

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## C1981022 Elk Creek and Sanborn Creek Mines MR-112 Additional Information

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**Doug Smith** <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 4:05 PM

To: "leigh.simmons@state.co.us" <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

Cc: Mike Ludlow <Mike.Ludlow@oxbow.com>

Leigh,

Please find the attached files describing the history of A and C Gulch emergency activities and associated reclamation. There is an attachment included for the Borehole Abandonment section of the permit to be included with

MR-112.

Also, please extend the completion date for MR-112 until October 2, 2020.

Yours,

Doug Smith

Oxbow Mining, LLC

(970) 929-6034

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### 5 attachments



**1-MR112 LETTER 9-22-2020.pdf**

142K



**2-MAP 2.05-M1 4 of 6.pdf**

3216K



**3- MSHA Sanborn Creek Final Map 052413.pdf**

1578K



**4-2004 AWARD ARTICLE AND PHOTO.pdf**

423K



**5-2.04-E3 TOC AND A-C GULCH ABANDONMENT FOR PERMIT.pdf**

104K



September 22, 2020

Mr. Leigh Simmons  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, Colorado 80203

**Via email**

**Re: Oxbow Mining, LLC., CDRMS Permit C-1981-022, Minor Revision 112 (MR112)  
for the Elk Creek and Sanborn Creek Mines Additional Information**

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Please accept this additional information regarding reclamation of A Gulch and C Gulch Emergency Facilities that are located above the abandoned Sanborn Creek Mine.

Oxbow activities in A Gulch and C Gulch included emergency road construction and drilling activities. This was in response to a spontaneous combustion fire event that occurred in the Sanborn Creek Mine. On January 26, 1999 elevated carbon monoxide levels were detected in the Sanborn Creek Mine. Shortly thereafter, steps were taken to successfully extinguish the fire and to later re-enter the mine to resume production.

In order to fight the fire, gas monitoring holes and water flood/dewater wells were required. Gas monitor holes installed by Oxbow include SCM-GM1, SCM-GM2, SCM-GM3, and SCM-GM4. Water Flood/ Dewater Wells installed by Oxbow include SCM-WM1. Holes WSC-GM1, 2, 3 and WSC-WF1 shown on Map 2.05-M1 Sheet 4 of 6, were proposed but not drilled.

General Facilities Map 2.05-M1 Sheet 4 of 6, within the permit, shows the locations of the holes and roads at issue and is provided as an attachment to this email. The Final Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) Ventilation Map for Sanborn Creek Mine is also included as an attachment. The MSHA map SCM hole locations matches the SCM hole locations on the General Facilities Map for A gulch. The MSHA map does not show WSC holes as having been drilled.

Reclamation of the A Gulch and C Gulch Emergency facilities was completed in the Fall of 2003 by Rundle Construction. Lance Rundle of Rundle Construction recalls plugging and cementing the holes in A Gulch prior to reclaiming the roadways, although no records of the hole completions were made.

In February of 2005, Oxbow Mining received a Coal Mined Land Reclamation – Steep Slope Reclamation Award from the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology and the Colorado Mining Association, for Rundle Construction reclamation work in A Gulch. A submittal for a newspaper article with a photograph, which describes the reclamation project is attached.

Attachments to this letter include:

General Facilities Map 2.05-M1 Sheet 4 of 6

The Final MSHA Ventilation Map for Sanborn Creek Mine

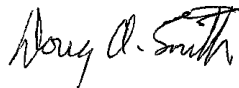
Newspaper article submittal with photograph

Attachments for placement in the Permit:

Exhibit 2.04-E3 Borehole Abandonment Information (Table of Contents)

A Gulch and C Gulch Emergency Hole Information

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug A. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doug A. Smith  
Chief Engineer  
Oxbow Mining, LLC  
(970) 929-6034

Cc Mike Ludlow  
files