

## Response to Consideration of 110d Hard Rock Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: May 12, 2021

TO: Peter Hays, Environmental Protection Specialist

FROM: Javier Vargas-Johnson

CC: District 7 Water Commissioner

RE: Gladstone Toll Mill, Permit No. M-2021-007

Applicant/Operator: Salisbury Gladstone LLC

Phone Number: (719) 237-5914

Pt. SE¼ of the NW¼ and the SW¼ of the NE¼, Sec. 34, Twp. 3 South, Rng. 73 West, 6th P.M.

Water Division 1, Water District 7, Clear Creek County

## **CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL**

- The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after milling operations.
- If water will be used for any purpose at this site, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source, or was diverted in priority under a water right decreed for such mining/industrial use.
- Any stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation that is not diverted or captured in priority must be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise the operator will need to obtain a substitute water supply plan or augmentation plan to make replacements.

**COMMENTS:** The subject application is for a milling operation on 2.1 acres located approximately 1.5 miles west of Idaho Springs, Colorado. The application proposes to construct a mill to process existing waste rock. Mining will not occur at the mill site. The primary commodities processed at the mill site will be precious metals. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to the current industrial and commercial uses after the proposed milling operations are complete.

Milling activities are anticipated to begin as soon as the permit has been approved and the anticipated life of the mill is ten years after the construction of the mill. Mining will not occur at the mill site, therefore groundwater is not expected to be encountered.

Water will be required for the processing activities at the site. The applicant has obtained a permit from the City of Idaho Springs to haul water from a designated site. The applicant will be billed for the amount of water used. The applicant should keep the invoices to verify the water was obtained from a legal source.

The application states that stormwater run-off from mill structures and storage pads will be directed to sumps and pumped into the process water system. If stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation is not diverted or captured in priority, it must infiltrate into the ground or be discharged to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise, the operator must make replacements for evaporation losses or beneficial use of the water. If the applicant is unable to release this water to the stream system due to water quality concerns, the applicant will need to obtain a substitute water supply plan approved by this office or a plan for augmentation approved by the water court in order to make replacements for



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the capture and use of this water any time such diversions are not made in priority (i.e., any time there is a call in effect).

Stormwater run-off from the interior road will be conveyed off-site via roadside ditches. The operator has obtained a permit from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to discharge into Clear Creek.

The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.