

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Royal Gorge Field Office 3028 East Main Street Cañon City, Colorado 81212

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DECISION

Viscount Colorado Holdings LTD Attn: Harald Hoegberg, Geologist 1805 Tunbridge Dr.

Richmond, VA 23238

Viscount Colorado Holdings LTD Attn: Mark Abrams, Director 275 Moonshine Circle

Reno, NV 89523

Surface Management

NOTICE MODIFICATION (MD-2) COMPLETE AND DETERMINATION FOR REQUIRED FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AMOUNT

On July 20, 2021, BLM received additional information for the Viscount Colorado Holdings LTD [Viscount] Notice modification (MD-2) to conduct additional exploration drilling (15 additional boreholes) north of Westcliffe, CO. BLM has reviewed the entire Notice modification and determined it is complete (Enclosure 1), containing all the information required by the surface management regulations outlined in 43 CFR 3809.301 and is adequate to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation as defined by 43 CFR 3809.5.

Based on review of data currently available, the proposed operation presents a low risk of impacting historic properties, if the operator drives only on the existing roads and works only in the designated areas. There are also no lands or waters known to contain Federally proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or their proposed or designated critical habitat within the area of interest you have identified. Regulations outlined in 43 CFR 3809.420 (Enclosure 2) provide further details on performance standards that apply to your Notice operation, which include those related to cultural resources and threatened or endangered species.

Required Financial Guarantee – This office has reviewed the operation's current financial guarantee held by the BLM and Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS) and determined an increase of \$3,000 is required, to be sufficient to meet all anticipated reclamation requirements. Therefore, the new financial guarantee for these operations will total \$7,000, which includes reclamation of the previous Notice activity and the additional 15 drillholes. The amount of the reclamation cost estimate is based on the operator complying

with all applicable operating and reclamation requirements as outlined in the Notice and the regulations outlined in 43 CFR 3809.420. A completed bond form for the additional \$3,000 should be posted with CDRMS before initiating the additional exploration activities.

BLM's review of your proposed operations, determination that your Notice is complete, finding that the activity will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation, and decision concerning the amount of the required financial guarantee does not relieve you, the operator, of the responsibility to comply with all applicable Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and permit requirements. You are responsible for preventing any unnecessary or undue degradation and for reclaiming all lands disturbed by your operations.

This review and determination do not constitute certification of ownership to any entity named in the Notice, recognition of the validity of any associated mining claims, or recognition of the economic feasibility of the proposed operations.

<u>Term of Notice</u> – Your Notice will remain in effect for 2 years from the date of this letter, unless you notify this office beforehand that operations have ceased, and reclamation is complete. If you wish to conduct operations for another 2 years after the expiration date of your Notice, you must notify this office in writing on or before the expiration date as required by 43 CFR 3809.333. You will also have to submit an updated reclamation cost estimate at that time.

<u>Appeal of the Decision Determining the Required Financial Guarantee Amount</u> – Appeal of this Decision Determining the Required Financial Guarantee Amount can be pursued utilizing Form 1842-1 (Enclosure 3).

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Carter 719-269-8751.

Sincerely,

Keith E. Berger Field Manager Royal Gorge Field Office

3 Enclosures

- 1 Complete Viscount Notice Modification (MD-2)
- 2 43 CFR 3809.420 regulations
- 3 Form 1842-1, Information on Taking Appeals to the Interior Board of Land Appeals

cc: Harald Hoegberg, Geologist – return email verification upon receipt of this letter Eric Scott, CDRMS