

Response to Consideration of 110(1) Hard Rock Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: September 20, 2021

TO: Peter Hays, Environmental Protection Specialist

FROM: Javier Vargas-Johnson

RE: Lombard #3, Permit No. M-2020-057

Applicant/Operator: SSG Mining Phone Number: (719) 237-5914

Pt. SW ¼ of the NE ¼, Section 1, Twp. 3 South, Rng. 74 West, 6th P.M., Clear Creek County

Water Division 1, Water District 7

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after mining 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.

COMMENTS: The subject application is for an underground mining operation on 2 permitted acres located approximately 1.5 miles east of Alice, Colorado. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are silver and gold. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its previous use of forestry upon completion of mining.

The applicant proposes to reopen the historic Lombard #3 adit (entrance to the underground mine), construct a 2-acre pad with the excavated adit material, and perform limited sampling within the adit. The applicant estimated 300 cubic yards of material will be excavated to open the adit and construct the pad. The mining activities will stop if water is encountered in the adit.

The applicant has indicated that no water will be needed during the mining operation. This office would have no opposition to the use of bottled water and portable toilets to meet the drinking and sanitation needs of on-site workers. If water from another source will be used at the site, it is recommended that the applicant verify with this office that the water may legally be used for such commercial/industrial purposes.

Any stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise, the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.

Based on the above, this office has no concerns regarding the proposed mining operation. The DRMS or the applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

