



January 12, 2023

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

Re: M-1978-009 Apache Mine, El Paso County, Colorado
Surety Reduction/Acreage Release

Dear Mr. Cazier:

General Shale Brick, Inc. (GSB) would like to withdraw the Surety Reduction Request for the Apache Mine M-1978-009. The original plan was to remove, and swap reclaimed areas for newly disturbed areas planned for 2023. Based on the bond calculation for the surety request, the bond would have to increase rather than decrease. The last bond increase was in 2005 and due to inflation, the bond should be increased. Pursuant to conversations with the DRMS the surety reduction process is not the best fit for this scenario and a technical revision is the best fit due to the increase of the bond and what General Shale is trying to do.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 303-783-3058 or by email at jason.mcgraw@generalshale.com.

Sincerely,
General Shale Brick, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason E. McGraw".

Jason E. McGraw P.E.
Mine Supervisor