

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Hays - DNR, Peter** <peter.hays@state.co.us>

Riverbend West Mine M-2000-016 Flooding

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To: "Hays - DNR, Peter" <peter.hays@state.co.us>

Please accept this email as our notice that flooding has occurred at our Riverbend West Mine with all of the storms this last weekend. The flow rate prior to the storms was at 300 cfs and during the height of the storm it was at 7500 cfs. This caused waters from the South Platte to leave the banks on Friday along most sections of the river in the permit boundary. We were able to walk the conveyor line yesterday and start assessing the damage on foot but most of the permit area is not yet assessable by vehicle. We do not believe that the Platte River broke through into any of the cells just overtopped the banks. The Lupton Bottom Ditch might have broken through into Phase 2, Cell 1 and Phase 5, Cell 2A and Big Dry Creek might have broken through Phase 5, Cell 3 or water just overtopped the ditches into the pits. We will have to wait for the river to drop and start some dewatering to get a clearer picture of what is going on.

Also want to note that we did report a minor 1-2 gallon spill to CDPHE on Phase 1 from the dewatering pump into the pit which created a sheen. Nothing was discharged off-site and we are cleaning it up before turning the pump back on.

Julie Mikulas

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