

United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To: 1990 (COF02000, RPO)

Mr. Charles O. Spielman 2705A Sherman Ave Monte Vista, CO 81144

Dear Mr. Spielman:

On March 18, 2023, BLM received a Notice submission for proposed exploration activities in T9N, R76W, section 3 in Park County, CO. Additional information was received in April, May and June. BLM has reviewed the additional information and, per 43 CFR 3809, is responding within the regulatory required timeframe of 15 days.

Based on prior review of data currently available, there does not appear to be a direct conflict with archaeological sites or threatened and/or endangered species and their habitat within the area of interest you have identified. Although to date none have been identified, continued awareness during project implementation is critical so cultural resources are not inadvertently disturbed or destroyed. Regulations outlined in 43 CFR 3809.420 provide further details on performance standards that apply to your notice operation, which include those related to cultural resources and threatened or endangered species.

Your notice is considered complete based on the original Notice submittal dated March 18, 2023, combined with the additional information you recently provided BLM.

In accordance with 43 CFR 3809.312(c), a financial guarantee is required. The BLM has reviewed the reclamation cost estimate submitted with your notice filing. The exploration work will involve access to trenching excavations. The proposed access for this exploration work will utilize overland travel.

Based on BLM's reclamation cost estimate, you will need to submit a financial guarantee, or bond, in the amount of \$4,000 prior to initiating the proposed exploration operations. As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the State of Colorado, Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS), the DRMS can be the lead bond authority and will be responsible for calculating your reclamation bond. This bond will need to be submitted to and approved by DRMS, prior to the authorization. This bond will be used as a guarantee of faithful performance with the terms and conditions listed. As a reminder, the bond can be adjusted during the term in response to changes in the operations or to changes in the economy. Also, you may request a partial bond release following completion of the ground disturbing activities (i.e., all but monitoring).

If mining activities are proposed as a result of this exploration project, or any other conditions are met under 43 CFR 3809.11, then BLM needs to be notified and compliance with 43 CFR 3809.401 will be required. You will also need to coordinate with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, as applicable.

Please contact Ray Ogle at 719-269-8522, if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Acting for Keith E. Berger Field Manager Royal Gorge Field Office

Enclosures:

1 – Complete copy of Notice