6 6/14/23



COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203 ph(303) 866-3567



Operator (If Other than Permittee):

Permittee Representative: Janice A. Covey Wheeler

Please provide a brief description of the proposed revision:

Please see attached letter of request. Thank you.

As defined by the Minerals Rules, a Technical Revision (TR) is: "a change in the permit or application which does not have more than a minor effect upon the approved or proposed Reclamation or Environmental Protection Plan." The Division is charged with determining if the revision as submitted meets this definition. If the Division determines that the proposed revision is beyond the scope of a TR, the Division may require the submittal of a permit amendment to make the required or desired changes to the permit.

The request for a TR is not considered "filed for review" until the appropriate fee is received by the Division (as listed below by permit type). Please submit the appropriate fee with your request to expedite the review process. After the TR is submitted with the appropriate fee, the Division will determine if it is approvable within 30 days. If the Division requires additional information to approve a TR, you will be notified of specific deficiencies that will need to be addressed. If at the end of the 30 day review period there are still outstanding deficiencies, the Division must deny the TR unless the permittee requests additional time, in writing, to provide the required information.

There is no pre-defined format for the submittal of a TR; however, it is up to the permittee to provide sufficient information to the Division to approve the TR request, including updated mining and reclamation plan maps that accurately depict the changes proposed in the requested TR.

Required Fees for Technical Revision by Permit Type - Please mark the correct fee and submit it with your request for a Technical Revision.

Permit Type			
110c	111	112	construction

materials, and 112 quarries

112 hard rock (not DMO)

110d, 112d(1, 2 or 3)

Required TR FeeSubmitted (mark only one)\$216////\$175////\$1006////

June 14, 2023

Janice A. Covey Wheeler Personal Representative for the Estate of Harry D. Covey 2565 Wisteria Drive Erie, CO 80516 Re: Permit M-1988-081

Dear Reclamation Committee:

We are truly thankful for your patience, flexibility, and understanding as we navigate the process of bringing the Phil Sheridan Lode into final reclamation compliance.

Our previous TR requests have been crafted in hopes of finding a buyer that would honor the history, research, culture, and passion that Harry Covey brought to the mining community through the Phil Sheridan Lode. Alas, our recent attempts at securing a buyer have fallen through. We have, therefore, decided to return to a simpler reclamation plan and create a "patchwork quilt" of the previously submitted TR's. Here is, hopefully, our last and final proposal to bring this site into compliance and release of our held bond:

1) Removal of winch, winch shed, and headframe from site – Nederland Mining Consultants have agreed to take these items. Total removal is expected to be complete

today, June 14, 2023. We are happy that they will find a new home and continue the work for which they were created.

- 2) Re-grading: The requested regrade slope angle of 3:1 is less than the natural angle in some places. We would therefore propose to regrade to natural slope and contour. We will also distribute dead wood and branches for erosion control while vegetation gets reestablished. We would also like to seek an exception to re-grading in the back wall area. We propose instead, a best effort re-grading and reseeding. There is also a berm to the southwest of the winch house site to channel natural runoff away from the site that would help to protect any grading, top soiling, and reseeding efforts that we would like to keep in place.
- 3) **Topsoil:** The requested topsoil level of 12 inches appears excessive and would far exceed even the natural, and present, topsoil thickness of between 0 and 3 inches

around the disturbed areas. Instead, we propose to redistribute a portion of the original stored topsoil back to a natural level of depth matching the surrounding undisturbed areas. The topsoil reserve area would then be contoured and reseeded in compliance with the recommendation in the report.

4) **Re-seeding:** We will re-seed the area using the prescribed mountain foothill natural seed mix of Blue grama, Western wheatgrass, and Needle and Thread.

Please note that these requests are listed in the notes of discussion from Amy Eschberger following her visit to the Phil Sheridan Lode on September 16, 2021, and have been in our previous TR's.

I think the big issue was the equipment at the site which will all now be removed. We will also fill in the specimen trench which was covered by the winch house. The shaft will remain capped and locked and leveled out as has previously been inspected and approved.

In summary, we are removing all equipment and sheds, re-grading and re-seeding the areas to the approved conditions of TR-5, keeping the berm for water mitigation and the cinder block wall for erosion control, along with the grading scale, reseeding, and topsoil previously approved plan. We would like to keep some flat area at the site as this is favorable to prospective buyers for storage sheds or RV/trailer parking.

We would also request a date for a visit to the mine site for an inspection and possible sign-off of the reclamation plan and release of the bond. Perhaps the first or second week of August as we know how busy things this time of year are. Please let us know when you are available.

Again, we thank you for your time and expertise in helping us to navigate this process.

Very Sincerely, Januard, Wheeler Jahige A. Covey Wheeler