

September 27, 2023

Stephen Glass
Gault Group, LLC
5223 North 24th Street, #201
Phoenix, AZ 85016



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: La Plata Project, NOI No. P-2023-012 , NOI Application Adequacy Review (4)

Mr. Glass:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) continues to review the above referenced application in order to ensure that it adequately satisfies the requirements of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act (Act) and the associated Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Hard Rock, Metal, and Designated Mining Operations (Rules). On September 7, 2023 Thomas Miller submitted comments in response to your August 30, 2023 correspondence. Several statements presented by Mr. Miller contradict information you have provided.

During review of the material submitted, the Division determined that the following issue(s) of concern shall be adequately addressed before the application can be considered for approval.

1. There seems to be discrepancy regarding the formation in which Mr. Miller's well is located. Your August 30, 2023 correspondence states that *"Mr. Miller's well is located in the bottom of La Plata Canyon, along the La Plata River, in alluvial fill overlying alternating beds of Cutler formation sandstones and siltstone with interlayered monzonite."* Mr. Miller states that his well is located in igneous rock and has presented the well completion report in order to support this claim. Additionally, USGS data shows the location of his well to be within granitic Laramide intrusive rocks (Tweto, Ogden, 1979). The concern here is that the formations in which you propose to drill may have some connectivity to his well through fracture systems. Please provide additional information/clarification as to how you have determined the lithology at the location of Mr. Miller's well and the lack of potential connectivity between the proposed boreholes and the well.
2. Your August 30, 2023 correspondence states that *"The nearest drill collar is proposed .36 miles northeast of the Miller well, at an elevation increase of approximately 750 feet."* Mr. Miller has responded with the following comment: *"A borehole drilled at 105 azimuth and -60 dip is approximately 25% closer than the .36 miles. At a depth of 984 feet it would be at or below my well depth. Maybe this hole could be eliminated."* Please respond to this comment.
3. Should the drilling of the proposed boreholes encounter historic Copper Hill mine workings, what will be the borehole closure protocol?

Please submit your response(s) to the above listed issue(s) by Monday, October 09, 2023.

The Division will continue to review your application and will contact you if additional information is needed.



If you require additional information, or have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dustin Czapla', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dustin Czapla
Environmental Protection Specialist
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Phone: (303) 866-3567, ext. 8188