

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Tres Rios Field Office 161 Burnett Drive Unit #4 Durango, Colorado 81301 www.blm.gov/colorado

In Reply Refer To: 3809 (LLCOS01000) CO106332662

December 7, 2023

Highbury Resources Attn: Scott Pottorff, Project Manager 28151 DD Rd Nucla, CO USA 81424

Re: Slick Rock NOI - Acceptance of 3809 Notice and Required Amount of Financial Guarantee

Dear Mr. Pottorff:

On December 4, 2023, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tres Rios Field Office (TRFO) received Highbury Resource's updated Slick Rock Notice (CO106332662) to conduct exploratory drilling for uranium and vanadium on unpatented mining claims on BLM TRFO administered public lands in T. 44 N. R. 18 W. Sec 26, 27, 28, 29, 33, 34, New Mexico Prime Meridian, San Miguel County, Colorado.

The TRFO has completed the review of this Notice, and determined it is complete, containing all the information required by the surface management regulations required by 43 CFR 3809.301. TRFO also determined that the Notice as submitted is adequate to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation as defined by 43 CFR 3809.5. Activities under this Notice may commence as submitted with the attached mitigation measures. You must adhere to the performance standards outlined in 43 CFR 3809.420 where applicable, all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and permit requirements.

This decision does not constitute certification of ownership to any entity named in the Notice, recognition of the validity of any associated mining claims, or recognition of the economic feasibility of the proposed operations.

<u>Amount of Financial Guarantee</u> – This office, in concert with the Colorado Department of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (CDRMS), has reviewed Highbury's reclamation cost estimate for this project and determined that the amount of \$2,000 is sufficient to meet all the anticipated reclamation requirements. The amount of the reclamation cost estimate is based on the operator complying with all applicable operating and reclamation requirements as outlined in the Notice and the regulations at 43 CFR 3809.420.

<u>Term of Notice</u> – This Notice, CO106332662, will remain in effect for two years from the date of this letter unless you notify this office beforehand that operations have ceased and reclamation is complete. If you wish to conduct operations for another two years after the expiration date of this Notice, you must notify this office in writing on or before the expiration date as required by 43 CFR 3809.333. You will also have to submit an updated reclamation cost at that time.

Exploration activities under this Notice may not begin until all necessary federal and state permits and approvals have been obtained.

If you have any questions, please contact Bridget Wade, BLM Tres Rios Field Office Geologist, at (970) 385-1342 or bcwade@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Derek Padilla Field Manager

CC: Lucas West Environmental Protection Specialist DRMS Room 215 1001 E 62nd Ave Denver, CO 80216

Attachment 1: Mitigation Measures

In order to accommodate big game, the Tres Rios Field Office Wildlife Biologist has recommended the following:

Hole #467 is in a desert bighorn sheep production area. Operator shall not commence operations during the timing restriction from February 1 through May 1.

Hole #455, #467, and #481 are in a desert bighorn sheep winter concentration area. Operator shall not commence operations during the timing restriction of December 1 through April 15.

Hole #467 is in a mule deer winter concentration area. Operator shall not commence operations during the timing restriction from December 1 through April 30.

In order to protect archeological resources, the Tres Rios Field Office Archaeologist has recommended the following:

Hole #455 has sensitive cultural resources in the vicinity, disturbance shall be kept to a bare minimum by reducing vehicle traffic to the fewest trips possible. Reclamation of any access disturbance shall commence immediately following cessation of work along the access.