

January 9, 2024

Dayle Funka
United States Forest Service
216 N Colorado Street
Gunnison, CO 81230



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

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Pitch Project, Permit # M-1977-004, Acreage Release Request (AR1)

Hello Mrs. Funka:

Pursuant to the *Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Hard Rock, Metal, and Designated Mining Operations*, Rule 4.17.2 requires the Division to issue a decision on an acreage release request within sixty (60) days of receipt of the request. The Operator submitted the release request (AR1) on August 11, 2023. The Division sent notice of AR1 to USFS on August 11, after the request was filed. I inspected the site on August 23 and found that the Operator had satisfied the reclamation requirements for the affected lands. On August 27, 2023 I notified USFS of the successful reclamation, the Division's intent to approve AR1, and requested USFS to notify the Division whether USFS concurred with the decision. On September 28, 2023 Jon Hare contacted me about scheduling an inspection. I let him know I could do an inspection October 11, 2023, but never heard anything further.

The Division is bound to certain statutory decision deadline requirements. Therefore, we were required to issue our decision on AR1. We understand USFS operates under separate time constraints independent of ours and that our deadlines don't always match up.

If you have any further questions about the site, or would like to schedule a future joint inspection, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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

Dustin Czaplá
Environmental Protection Specialist
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
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