



Cripple Creek & Victor
Gold Mining Company
P.O. Box 191
100 North 3rd Street
Victor, Colorado 80860

P 719.689.2977
F 719.689.3254
newmont.com

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

February 29, 2023

Mr. Patrick Lennberg
Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Department of Natural Resources
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Office of Mined Land Reclamation
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203

RE: Additional Information Required, Grassy Valley Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Report November 2023; Permit No. M-1980-244

Dear Mr. Lennberg:

Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V) received the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety's (DRMS) *Additional Information Required and Issuance of Corrective Action, Grassy Valley Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Report November 2023; Permit No. M-1980-244*. CC&V has reviewed the additional information required in the letter dated January 30, 2023 from DRMS and has prepared the following responses for each comment. The DRMS comment (in **bold**) and CC&V's corresponding response (in *italics*) is presented below.

- 1. It was the understanding of the Division through multiple discussions, including discussion's regarding P2023-008, with the Operator the purpose for constructing an access road to the Point-of-Compliance (POC) well location for GVMW-26A and 26B was to allow for safe access for drilling equipment and serve for consistent long-term access for sampling the POC wells.**

During the November 2023 sampling event the Operator did not collect samples from POC wells GVMW-26A and 26B with no explanation given in the cover sheet. The only comment provided was on the field sheets which stated "Road packed with snow inaccessible." The Division noted the weather condition at the time of completing the field form for each well was clear and warm.



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It is the Division's expectation that the access road to GVMW-26A/B will be maintained in a manner to insure year round access so samples can be collected from the POC wells. Additionally, if locations that are to be sampled were not sampled, then a narrative should be provided clearly stating the reason.

GVMW-26A and 26B were not sampled during the November monitoring period as the wells were inaccessible due to a substantial amount of snow accumulation that created a significant safety hazard. Weather conditions noted on the field sheets are provided as an observation and may be relative. Temperatures on 11/5/2023 ranged from 27 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit and the access road to the GVMW-26 wells is on a north-facing slope. This allows the slope to retain snow, even in warmer conditions. In addition, the road to the GVMW-26 wells is an offsite road that can't be maintained by mine resources; however, CC&V is in the process of identifying a contractor to maintain the road for year-round access moving forward.

In the December 2023 monitoring report, CC&V included a summary table of the status of each well during the monitoring period. CC&V will expand this table in future reports to provide a narrative and detailed explanation for wells that were not sampled during a given monitoring period.

Should the Division require further information regarding the above responses, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Adams at 719-323-0438 or Joshua.Adams@Newmont.com or me at 719-851-4048 or Katie.Blake@Newmont.com.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Katie Blake
Sustainability & External Relations Manager
Cripple Creek & Victor Mine

EC: M. Cunningham – DRMS
E. Russell - DRMS
K. Blake - CC&V
J. Gonzalez – CC&V
J. Adams – CC&V