

November 9, 2023

To: Cost Estimating Task Force From: Leigh Simmons

Request for Assistance M-1984-041, Eagle-Gypsum Mine, Site-wide Reclamation Cost Estimate

The Eagle-Gypsum Mine is a 929.20 acre, 112c operation, in Eagle County. The only commodity produced is gypsum; anhydrite, although present, is a waste material at this site.

The site was last inspected in August of this year, by me. As I noted in my <u>inspection report</u>, the Division currently holds a financial warranty of \$2,614,549 for the site. This figure is equal to the Minimum Required Surety. It appears to have been calculated by adding together cost estimates completed with TR-10 (2017), TR-11 (2019), and AM-04 (2020).

My original intention was to evaluate the adequacy of the Financial Warranty by calculating a single sitewide cost estimate (with current unit costs) with my inspection report, as is my normal practice. I realized that the task was more complex than I had initially assumed, so I sent the report to the operator with a note that the cost estimate would be presented in the near future.

I am requesting the assistance of the Cost Estimating Task Force with this project. I haven't made a request of this nature before, so I have no precedent as far as expectations go. My assumption is that the estimate would be based on approved documents from the permit file, and would allow the Division to bond for a "worst-case scenario".

If the CETF is willing to take the project on I'll be happy to discuss it further, and provide whatever support is necessary. There is no statutory or regulatory deadline for the completion of this project, so please let me know what works with your schedule.

