

June 12, 2024



Rob Zuber
Division of Reclamation Mining Safety
Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman St., Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Keenesburg Mine Permit C-1981-028 Permit Revision #3 – Renewable Energy Development
Post-Mining Land Use Addition

Dear Mr. Zuber,

Habitat Management, Inc. is submitting the enclosed Permit Revision application package to the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety (DRMS) on behalf of Coors Energy Company (CEC) for their Keenesburg Mine site in Keenesburg, CO. With this Permit Revision (PR#3), CEC is requesting consideration by the DRMS for revisions to the approved post-mining land use for all lands under Permit C-1981-028.

Currently, the approved post-mining land uses for the permit area include industrial/commercial for the area around the office, shop, warehouse, and equipment yard and rangeland for the remainder of the permit area. CEC is seeking to add renewable energy development as an additional approved industrial/commercial post-mining land use to the entire permit area.

CEC is negotiating with solar energy developers in the area to install a solar facility on their property outside of the Keenesburg Mine permit boundary and would like to be able to extend the potential solar facility into areas currently within the permit boundary. CEC has already received support from Weld County for this potential development as well as several neighboring landowners and is in the process of obtaining a Use by Special Review Permit for Solar Energy Facilities under Section 23-3-40 of the Weld County Charter and Code (Uses by special review of lands zoned as agricultural). The Keenesburg Mine site is in an area currently zoned as Agricultural in unincorporated Weld County. CEC already has a Use by Special Review Permit (USR-1160) which allows for the site to be used as a Coal Mine and Waste Disposal Facility under Section 23-3-40 of the Weld County Charter and Code.

While it will be necessary to have both the DRMS permit and the Weld County USR permits in place prior to solar facility development, the two permits are not dependent on one another. The current USR-1160 permit states that the Mined Land Reclamation Board (MLRB) has jurisdiction over all reclamation activities, and it is anticipated that the new USR permit will include the same language. Because reclamation activities are governed by MLRB, the reclamation must only comply with the MLRB Mining and Reclamation Permit (C-1981-028).



Habitat Management, Inc.

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The following documents are enclosed to support this request:

1. Application Form for a Revision to a Coal Mining and Reclamation Permit
2. Revised Permit pages 103, 116, 118, 119, and 131 of Section 2.05: Operations and Reclamation Plan
3. Proposed Public Notice to be published in the Ft Lupton Press

Copies of the Permit Revision #3 Application will be delivered to the Keenesburg Town Hall and to the Weld County Clerk and Recorder's office for public review after completeness approval is received and concurrently with publication of the Public Notice in the Ft. Lupton Press.

I believe that the documentation submitted with this application is complete and sufficient for the processing of this Permit Revision; however, should there be questions please contact me at 719-928-1717 or Ben Moline, CEC Environmental Manager, at 303-927-3680.

Sincerely,

Robin F. Bay
Principal Environmental Scientist



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