

STATE OF
COLORADO

Girardi - DNR, Chris <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

M2009-081 AM-01 Cost Estimate

1 message

Nathan Barton <NABarton@wastelineinc.net>
To: "Girardi - DNR, Chris" <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Fri, Sep 12, 2025 at 1:31 PM

Dear Chris:

Here are our comments on the reclamation cost estimate.

Task 001 (Finish grade): The estimate has 12,500 BCY, but the actual amount, based on slopes and mining plan, is actually only 4,500 BCY. A large portion of the existing shoreline of the pond, and the berms along the riverbank, are already at finish grade.

Task 002 (Soil replacement around pond, etc): The estimate has 2,420 CY, but the actual amount is less than 1,100 BCY. In addition, the average haul distance is less than 100 feet, not 200 feet. Again, much of the existing shoreline already has soil and is naturally revegetating, and the construction of the inlet and outlet, which must be done in the initial stages of the expansion, will include both final grade and soil to be placed before the pond is expanded. Although I do not think the reclamation plan specifically states so, since the pond is permanent and post-mining/post-reclamation, the inlet and outlet must also both be permanent post-mining/post-reclamation features.

Task 003 (Revegetation): 3 acres is probably a bit more than actually will be needed at any point, it makes sense to leave it at this conservative (large) quantity. This number looks good.

Task 004 (Mobilization): Pagosa Springs is identified in the estimate, but we would like to suggest that Ignacio would be a more reasonable option. There are several firms that have operations in the Ignacio vicinity that would be able to contract with the State, and Ignacio is only about 21 miles away, whereas the companies able to do the work in Pagosa are located to the east and about 34 miles away. There are several firms (oil field services with heavy equipment) located even closer (for instance, several pits right across the border in New Mexico close by Arboles) but we understand the limits on the software.

I believe that these do significantly reduce the total cost, but still ensure that the costs will be more than adequately covered.

Thanks, Nathan

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