

# STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY  
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone: (303) 866-3567  
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November 2, 2012

Forrest Luke  
Williams Fork Mining Company  
P.O. Box 187  
Craig, Colorado 81626

John W. Hickentlooper  
Governor

Mike King  
Executive Director

Loretta Piñeda  
Director

**Re: Williams Fork Mining Company, Williams Fork Pit, File No. M-1984-168, Temporary Cessation Request**

Dear Mr. Luke:

On October 26, 2012 the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) received your request for Temporary Cessation status for the Williams Fork Pit. The receipt of the Notice of Temporary Cessation will be acknowledged in the monthly activity report attached to the agenda at the December 12~13, 2012 meeting of the Mined Land Reclamation Board unless one or more of the following conditions occurs:

1. Reclamation or performance standard issues are indicated in the Notice of Temporary Cessation.
2. Such issues are indicated by a field inspection of the mine site.
3. Such issues are indicated by a review of the mining operation file.
4. Concerns are expressed about the Notice of Temporary Cessation by interested persons.

Staff inspected the site in March of 2012 and found no issues with reclamation, performance standards, field inspection or the file. Therefore the Division has sent out notice to Moffat County as required per Rule 1.13.6 (3)(a). If the Division receives comments from the County the Division will place the Notice of Temporary Cessation on the agenda for the January 9~10, 2013 meeting of the Mined Land Reclamation Board. During that meeting, the Board will consider whether or not to accept the Notice.

Please be aware that Section 1.13.5(1)(a) of the Hard Rock/Metal Mining Rules and Regulations state that *"Initial period shall be the first five years of Temporary Cessation beginning with the 180 day period of production cessation."*

Rules 1.13.8 and 1.13.9 state that:

**1.13.8 A permit granted pursuant to Rules shall continue in effect as long as:**

- a) *the mining operation is resumed within five (5) years of the beginning of Temporary Cessation; or*
- b) *the Operator files a report requesting an extension of the period of Temporary Cessation with the Board stating the reasons for the continuation of those factors necessary to, and the plans for, resumption.*

**1.13.9 Ten Year Limitation for Temporary Cessation**

*In no case shall Temporary Cessation be continued for more than ten (10) years without terminating the mining operation and fully complying with the Reclamation and Environmental Protection Plan requirements of the Act and these Rules.*

If you need additional information please contact me at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 S. 3rd St., Suite 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, by telephone at 970.242.5025, or by e-mail at [stephanie.reigh@state.co.us](mailto:stephanie.reigh@state.co.us).

Sincerely,



Stephanie Reigh  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Cc: Russ Means, DRMS