



# State of North Dakota

## Office of the State Engineer

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WATER APPROPRIATION DIVISION  
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FROM DIRECTOR - RECLAMATION DIV.

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February 25, 2009

Mr. James R. Deutsch, Director  
Reclamation Division  
Public Service Commission  
State Capitol Building  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

In a January 22, 2009 letter, you requested our comments on the application by the Coteau Properties Company of Revision No. 7 to Permit NACT-0201, the mining permit for the West Mine Area (Mine Areas 1 and 3), west of the Beulah trench. The proposed Revision 7 updates the permit for the next five years planned mining. With respect to ground water, the ground water monitoring plan is a separate document, not included.

The Geomorphic Reference Map, Section 2.3.1.1, is the one listed update to the ground water hydrology section (Section 2.3) of the permit document. The Geomorphic Reference Map, a portion of which is attached, includes the boundary line of Permit NACT-0201 (shown as a black, dashed line) and the Beulah lignite bed crop line (shown as a dark pink or fuchsia line). It is not obvious from the map if the outline for west mine areas 1 and 3 has been modified from previous maps. In any case, no further hydrologic information presented on the map and I therefore, have no further comment on proposed Revision 7 to NACT-0201.

Alan Wanek  
Hydrologist Manager

AW:sc/1687.11  
Encl.

