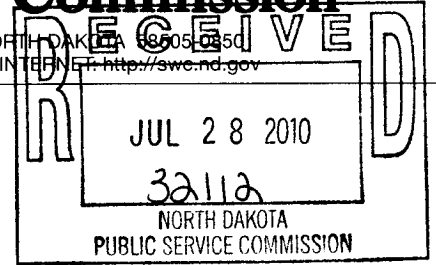


North Dakota State Water Commission

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WATER APPROPRIATION DIVISION
(701) 328-2754

July 26, 2010

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

FROM DIRECTOR - RECLAMATION DIV.

Date: _____

Action: _____

Info. Only: _____

Info & File: _____

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Revision 30 to BNCR-9702 proposes the continued northerly and westerly mining in the northwestern part of BNI's Center Mine. The geology and groundwater sections of the mine permit were comprehensive.

Monitoring well coverage in the northwestern part of the mine appears to be sufficient. The well nest near the northwest corner of Section 28 of Twp 142-84 is key to defining the shape of the potentiometric surfaces of the Kinneman Creek and Hagel beds (Figs. 3.3-2 & 3.3-3). BNI monitoring well 366R (replacing well 366), completed in the Hagel Bed, was not used in constructing the potentiometric surface in Figure/Plate 3.3-3. Possibly a water level was not obtained on the day used for constructing the map. Particularly in settings where water levels are changing significantly with mining, it would be informative to include on the map the water level measurement date used for constructing the potentiometric surface.

Alan Wanek
Hydrologist Manager

AW:sc/1687.1

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Comments filed
Water Commission
Alan Wanek