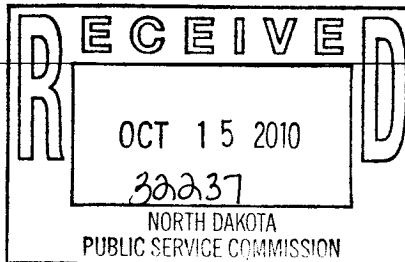


BASIN COOPERATIVE SERVICES

A BASIN ELECTRIC SUBSIDIARY

1717 EAST INTERSTATE AVENUE
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58503-0564
PHONE: 701/223-0441
FAX: 701/224-5322



October
~~September~~ 14, 2010

FROM DIRECTOR - RECLAMATION DIV.

Date: _____

Action: _____

Info. Only: _____

Info & File: _____

Mr. James R. Deutsch
Reclamation Director
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Response to deficiencies to Revision 36 dated 09/03/1010

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

We have made several changes to Revision 36 to BCGH-8204 as a result of PSC comments dated September 3, 2010. These changes are explained in the attached document entitled Response to Deficiencies. One of these comments required a letter from the SHD that provides documentation that the LOS expansion area for Permit SP-143 is acceptable and the amendment to add 325 acres will be approved. A copy of this letter from the SHD to the PSC is enclosed

I have enclosed 4 copies of the pages that changed as well as 4 copies of the revised Post Mining Land Use Map (Plate 3.5-15).

If you have any questions, please contact me at 745-7242 or via email at dnilson@bepc.com.

Sincerely,

David J. Nilson
Reclamation Administrator

Attachments:

cc: Permit BCGH-8204
Mike Murray

Response to Deficiencies

PSC Review of Revision 36

September 3, 2010

PSC Comment	<u>Response</u>
Section 3.5 –Pre- and Post-Mining Land Use of Area IV	
1.	Table 3.5-1 is being revised to show that Area IV has an additional 5.5 acres of woodlands (31.8 acres vs. 26.3 acres). It is not clear how this increased value was determined but this 31.8 acre value is also listed in the Land Use Table on page 3.5-7. The previous woodland acreage (26.3 acres) is consistent with the woodland table included with the 2006 annual maps. Please review and clarify how this increased post-mine woodland acreage value was determined, or otherwise correct the tables as necessary. It appears that the post-mine woodland acreage value (31.8 acres) listed in the table on Page 3.5-5 was incorrect, and that Area IV will have 2.75 acres of industrial land and 145.2 acres of reclaimed native grassland that includes 5 acres of woodlands. (GAW)
Response:	The acreage was changed back from 31.8 acres to 26.3 acres. The additional 5.5 acres was related to the amount of reclaimed woodland in section 6 of Mine Area IV which was released from bond and should not be included.
2.	Narrative in the second paragraph on page 3.5-8 states that “ <i>Approval of the Ash disposal area will leave 53 of the reclaimed native grassland...</i> ” Please insert the word acres into the sentence after the number 53 to denote the size of the area that is being described. (BEB/SAS)
Response:	This has been corrected.
3.	Please revise the title block of Plate 3.5-15 to indicate that it has been revised with Revision 36 rather than Revision 35. (MDB/BEB/WTG)
Response:	The title block of Plate 3.5-15 has been changed and 11X17 copies are included with this response.
4.	Please include documentation from the ND Health Department showing that the amendment to add 325 acres to Permit SP-143 for LOS ash pit expansion has been approved. (MDB/GAW)
Response:	This letter has been sent to the PSC. A copy sent to BEPC is included in this correspondence.