



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Cramer
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Executive Secretary
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600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept 408
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480
Web: www.nd.gov/psc
E-mail: ndpsc@nd.gov
Phone 701-328-2400
Toll Free 1-877-245-6685
Fax 701-328-2410
TDD 800-366-6888 or 711

December 21, 2010

Mr. Joe D. Friedlander
Environmental Manager
Coteau Properties Company
204 County Rd. 15
Beulah, ND 58523-9475

Dear Mr. Friedlander:

The Reclamation Division has completed a completeness review of the application for Renewal No. 4 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9001 at the Freedom Mine. The following items must be adequately addressed before the application can be deemed complete:

1. Since Revision No. 24 will be considered an insignificant alteration to the approved permit and public notice requirements are unnecessary for the revision, Coteau should remove reference to the revision application in the public advertisement. (BEB)
2. The permit renewal application form lists the continuation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations with Renewal No. 4 to be from April 16, 2011 to April 15, 2015. This represents a permit term of only four years while a five-year permit renewal ending date should be listed as **April 16, 2016**, assuming Coteau's intention is to extend the permit term for an additional five years. Please make the necessary corrections. (BEB)
3. Unless Coteau proposes to mine coal or conduct activities that may impact future coal recovery in Permit NACT-9001, listing of the subsurface (coal) owners is not required in the public advertisement as outlined in NDAC 69-05.2-10-1(1)(4). If coal removal is complete from the permit area, you may remove the listing of coal owners from the public advertisement. (BEB)
4. Pursuant to NDAC 69-05.2-11-03(5)(b)(d), and (e), please provide a statement indicating the reasons for requesting the renewal and evidence that adequate liability insurance will be provided and that sufficient bond will remain in force for the renewal period. (BEB)

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division