

# THE COTEAU

# PROPERTIES COMPANY

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION

2-8-12  
BR4 rsp tech rev-2-7-12 (33054)  
FREEDOM MINE

204 County Road 15  
Beulah North Dakota 58523-9475  
(701) 873-2281 • Fax (701) 873-7226  
RECEIVED  
FEB - 8 2012  
33054  
FROM DIRECTOR RECLAMATION, DIV.  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 7, 2012

Mr. James R. Deutsch  
Director Reclamation Division  
Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Department 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Date: 2-8-12  
Action: Buy  
Info. Only: \_\_\_\_\_  
Info & File: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Enclosed are three DVD's containing revised Final Bond Release #4 to Permit NACT-9101. Responses below refer to deficiencies in your December 7, 2011 letter.

1. See revised page 5 of Attachment VIIa.
2. See revised Attachment V, and revised page 5 of Attachment VIIa.
3. See revised page 1 of Attachment VIIIa.
4. See revised pages 3, 5, and 6 of Attachment VIIIa, revised pages 2 and 4 of Attachment VIIIb, revised pages 6, 12, 18, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 of Attachment VIIIc-1, revised pages 8, 16, 18, and 20 of Attachment VIIIc-2, and revised page 3 of Attachment VIIIe-1.
5. See revised page 4 of Attachment VIIIa.
6. See revised page 4 of Attachment VIIIa.
7. See revised pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 of Attachment VIIIc-1.
8. See revised pages 26, 28, 30, and 32 of Attachment VIIIc-1. Other errors in formulas were found in Attachment VIIIc-1; see revised page 5 of Attachment VIIIa, revised page 3 of Attachment VIIIc, and revised pages 27-28 of Attachment VIIIc-1.
9. See revised page 6 of Attachment VIIIa, and revised pages 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 16 of Attachment VIIIc-2.
10. No changes are necessary. Forbs will continue to be considered native cover. The contractor collecting the samples was directed to track introduced forbs separately from native forbs, so everything included in the forb category can be considered native cover.
11. See revised page 6 of Attachment VIIIa. Forbs was not removed from the native species composition calculation.
12. See revised page 3 of Attachment VIIIId.
13. See revised page 8 of Attachment VIIIa, revised page 3 of Attachment VIIIId, and revised pages 2-3 of Attachment VIIIId-1.

Mr. James R. Deutsch  
February 7, 2012  
Page 2

14. See revised pages 7-8 of Attachment VIIIa, and revised pages 1-4 and new pages 5-11 of Attachment VIIIId. Additional supporting information from Coteau's CVSS document was necessary to update the cropland productivity standards. All of this information has been included in this bond release package (new pages 5-11 of Attachment VIIIId), and will also be included in the current update to Coteau's CVSS, Revision 13 to Permit NACT-0401, which is being worked on at this time. Please accept and review the portions of Coteau's CVSS included in this bond release package necessary to update the regional standard, and to expedite the bond release approval process. Also, the unadjusted yield standard increased, which increased the weighted standard in most cases. In the year 2008, a statistical analysis had to be completed to show that the weighted standard was not significantly different than the average reclaimed yield. The numbers to complete this analysis were obtained for a previous bond release package, and all the information needed to complete the analysis for 2008 is included in Attachment VIIIId.
15.
  - a. See #14
  - b. See revised page 9 of Attachment VIIIa.
  - c. See revised pages 1-3 of Attachment VIIIe.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Unruh or me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY



Donn R. Steffen  
Environmental Manager

DRS:lr  
Enc.

cc: Monte Erhardt, Mercer County Auditor (w/enc.)