



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Donn Steffen
Environmental Manager
Coteau Properties Company
204 County Rd. 15
Beulah, ND 58523

Dear Mr. Steffen:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Freedom Mine. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at 10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011. This final bond release covers approximately 1,000.951 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

CC: Jessica Unruh, Coteau

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Dr. Mike Brand
Director of Surface Management
ND State Land Department
1707 N 9th Street, PO Box 5523
Bismarck, ND 58506-5523

Dear Dr. Brand:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. As the surface owner of the land located in Section 16, you or your representative is invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011**. The State School Land in Section 16 has been reclaimed to cropland (156.4 acres), hayland (313.2 acres), a seasonal wetland (0.4 acres), two stock ponds (1.0 acres) and roads/right-of-ways (6.9 acres). Attached is a CD that contains the bond release application.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Deutsch".

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosure: CD

CC: Michael Haupt, NDSL

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Mike Murray
Property and Rights-of-Way Supervisor
Basin Cooperative Services
1717 East Interstate Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

Dear Mr. Murray:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. As the surface owner of the land located in a portion of the E1/2 of Section 18, you or another representative at Basin Cooperative Services is invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Deutsch".

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Jeffrey Fleischman, Director
OSM Casper Field Office
PO Box 11018
150 East B Street - Room 1018
Casper, WY 82602-5004

Dear Mr. Fleischman:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. You and/or your representative are invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011**. A portion of the E1/2 of Section 18 contains federal minerals. Attached is a CD that contains the bond release application.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Deutsch".

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosure: CD

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mercer County Commissioners
Mercer County Courthouse
Stanton, ND 58571

Dear Commissioners:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. You and/or your representative are invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Scott Hochhalter
State Soil Conservation Specialist
2718 Gateway Ave., Suite #104
Bismarck, ND 58503

Dear Mr. Hochhalter:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. You are invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Carlee A. Elke
Soil Conservationist
NRCS Beulah Field Office
1400 Highway 49 N, No. 2
Beulah, ND 58523-6065

Dear Ms. Elke:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. You and/or a Soil Conservation District representative are invited to participate in the final bond release inspection. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Terry Allbee
ND Natural Resource Trust
1605 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 101
Bismarck, ND 58501-2102

Dear Mr. Allbee:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. A representative from your organization is invited to participate in this inspection as a member of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

This bond release application contains two reclaimed seasonal wetlands that are approximately 0.4 and 1.5 acres in size and several temporary or ephemeral wetlands that are replacing wetland acreage that existed prior to mining. A CD containing a copy of the bond release application is enclosed. The wetland discussion begins on page 4 of Attachment VII – General Information. Also enclosed is a memo that outlines the role of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. The Public Service Commission's Revegetation Success Standards for reclaimed wetlands can be found at <http://www.psc.nd.gov/docs/guidelines/coalmining/revvegdocjuly2003final.pdf>.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures: Memo & CD

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Terry Ellsworth
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-7926

Dear Mr. Ellsworth:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. A representative from your organization is invited to participate in this inspection as a member of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

This bond release application contains two reclaimed seasonal wetlands that are approximately 0.4 and 1.5 acres in size and several temporary or ephemeral wetlands that are replacing wetland acreage that existed prior to mining. A CD containing a copy of the bond release application is enclosed. The wetland discussion begins on page 4 of Attachment VII – General Information. Also enclosed is a memo that outlines the role of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. The Public Service Commission's Revegetation Success Standards for reclaimed wetlands can be found at <http://www.psc.nd.gov/docs/guidelines/coalmining/vevegdocjuly2003final.pdf>.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures: Memo & CD

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. Terry Steinwand, Director
North Dakota Game and Fish Department
100 North Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Dear Mr. Steinwand:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. A representative from your organization is invited to participate in this inspection as a member of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

This bond release application contains two reclaimed seasonal wetlands that are approximately 0.4 and 1.5 acres in size and several temporary or ephemeral wetlands that are replacing wetland acreage that existed prior to mining. A CD containing a copy of the bond release application is enclosed. The wetland discussion begins on page 4 of Attachment VII – General Information. Also enclosed is a memo that outlines the role of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. The Public Service Commission's Revegetation Success Standards for reclaimed wetlands can be found at <http://www.psc.nd.gov/docs/guidelines/coalmining/vevegdocjuly2003final.pdf>.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures: Memo & CD

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-9101/BondRelease/BondRelease5/BR5_final_inspec_ltrs_9-21-11.docx



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Clark
Brian P. Kalk
Kevin Cramer

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

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

September 21, 2011

Mr. David D. Dewald
Natural Resource Conservation Service
220 East Rosser Ave.
P.O. Box 1458
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502

Dear Mr. Dewald:

The Reclamation Division has scheduled a field inspection for Bond Release Application No. 5 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-9101 at the Coteau Properties Company's Freedom Mine. Coteau is requesting final bond release on approximately 1,000.95 acres of land located in portions of Sections 16, 17 and 18, T145N, R86W, Mercer County, ND. A representative from your organization is invited to participate in this inspection as a member of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. We will meet at the Coteau Properties Company's mine office at **10:00 a.m., CDT on Thursday, September 29th, 2011.**

This bond release application contains two reclaimed seasonal wetlands that are approximately 0.4 and 1.5 acres in size and several temporary or ephemeral wetlands that are replacing wetland acreage that existed prior to mining. A CD containing a copy of the bond release application is enclosed. The wetland discussion begins on page 4 of Attachment VII – General Information. Also enclosed is a memo that outlines the role of the Wetlands Advisory Committee. The Public Service Commission's Revegetation Success Standards for reclaimed wetlands can be found at <http://www.psc.nd.gov/docs/guidelines/coalmining/revvegdocjuly2003final.pdf>.

Contact Guy Welch at 701-328-2298 if you plan to attend so that you can be contacted in case of cancellation or delay. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James R. Deutsch
Director
Reclamation Division

Enclosures: Memo & CD