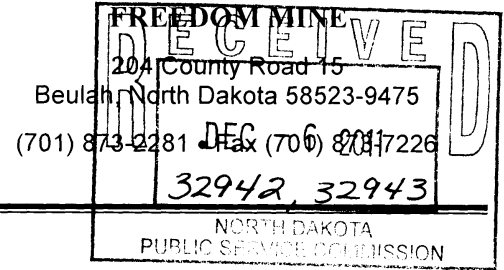


THE COTEAU
PROPERTIES COMPANY
A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION



December 5, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

Enclosed are affidavits of publication from the Beulah Beacon and Hazen Star. These affidavits are for final bond release applications #4 to Permit NACT-9101, and #1 to Permit NACT-9501.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa D. Ryan".

Lisa D. Ryan CPS/CAP
Office Administrator

LDR
Enc.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)
)
)
COUNTY OF MERCER)

I SHELLEY CHASE, being first duly sworn, on my own oath, say, that I am the bookkeeper of the BEULAH BEACON, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in the city of BEULAH, that the advertisement headed:

COTEAU PROPERTIES BH-BOND RELEASE FBR #1 TP 9501/LEGAL

a printed copy of which is here annexed, was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper during the period and time of publication, and that the notice was published in the newspaper proper, and not in a supplement,

for 4 consecutive week 11/03/11 to wit:

24.75	139.84	10/13/2011
24.75	139.84	10/20/2011
24.75	139.84	10/27/2011
24.75	139.84	11/03/2011

Notary Fee \$1.00 Total Cost of Legal \$560.36

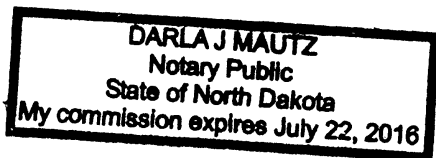
Shelley Chase

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November A.D. 2011.

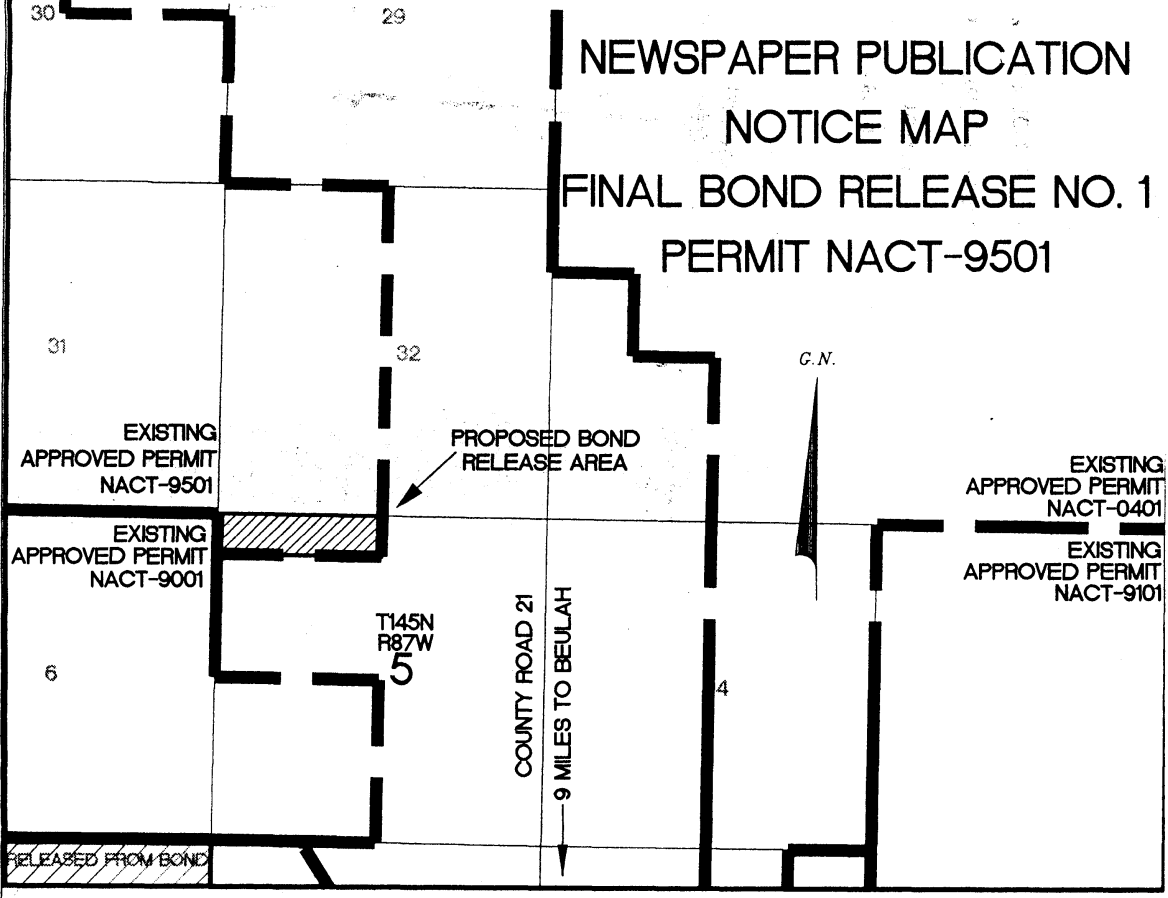
(Seal) *Darla J. Mautz*

Notary Public, State of North Dakota

My Commission Expires



**NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION
NOTICE MAP
FINAL BOND RELEASE NO. 1
PERMIT NACT-9501**



NOTICE OF FILING FOR FINAL RELEASE OF RECLAMATION BOND

The Coteau Properties Company, as applicant, has filed an application for final bond release on 39.7 acres of land in Mercer County located in Section 5, T145N, R87W, as shown on the map. Of this total, 2.3 acres have been affected by mining. This land is included in Permit NACT-9501, approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission on April 3, 1996. This permit area is bonded in consolidation with adjacent mining permits for an amount totaling \$109 million. Upon approval of this bond release application, The Coteau Properties Company will be released from reclamation liability for all stages (backfilling and grading, soil respreading, vegetation establishment, and final release), but the bond amount will not be reduced due to continued mining and reclamation operations within this permit and other permit areas within the consolidated bond area at the Freedom Mine.

Following permit approval, initial mining disturbance commenced in 1996 with topsoil stripping and construction of water management structures and soil stockpiles. No coal removal was completed on this tract. Water management structures and soil stockpiles were removed in 1998, and soil respread and seeding followed directly.

Land Use	Pre-Mining	Post-Mining
Cropland (Hayland)	39.7	39.7
Total	39.7	39.7

Written comments, objections, or requests for an informal conference or public hearing on this bond release may be submitted by any person having a valid legal interest that is or may be adversely affected by this action, to the North Dakota Public Service Commission, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 408, Bismarck, ND 58505-0480, within 30 days after the last publication of this notice. Any request for an informal conference or hearing should be in writing to the Commission, and must state specifically the issues or objections that an affected party has regarding this bond release.

The Coteau Properties Company
204 County Road 15
Beulah, North Dakota 58523

(10-13-11-10-20-11-10-27-11-11-3-11) *Beacon*

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA)
)
COUNTY OF Mercer)

1AF

I SHELLEY CHASE, being first duly sworn, on my own oath, say, that I am the bookkeeper of the Hazen Star, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in the city of Hazen, that the advertisement headed:

COTEAU PROPERTIES/LISA RYAN HZ-BOND RELEASE FBR#1 TO 9501/L

ACT-RIO
APPROVE
L

a printed copy of which is here annexed, was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper during the period and time of publication, and that the notice was published in the newspaper proper, and not in a supplement,

for 4 consecutive week 11/03/2011 to wit:

Column Inches 24.75	\$5.65	\$139.84	10/13/2011
Column Inches 24.75	\$5.65	\$139.84	10/20/2011
Column Inches 24.75	\$5.65	\$139.84	10/27/2011
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Notary Fee \$1.00 Total Cost of Legal \$560.36

Shelley Chase

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of November A.D. 2011.

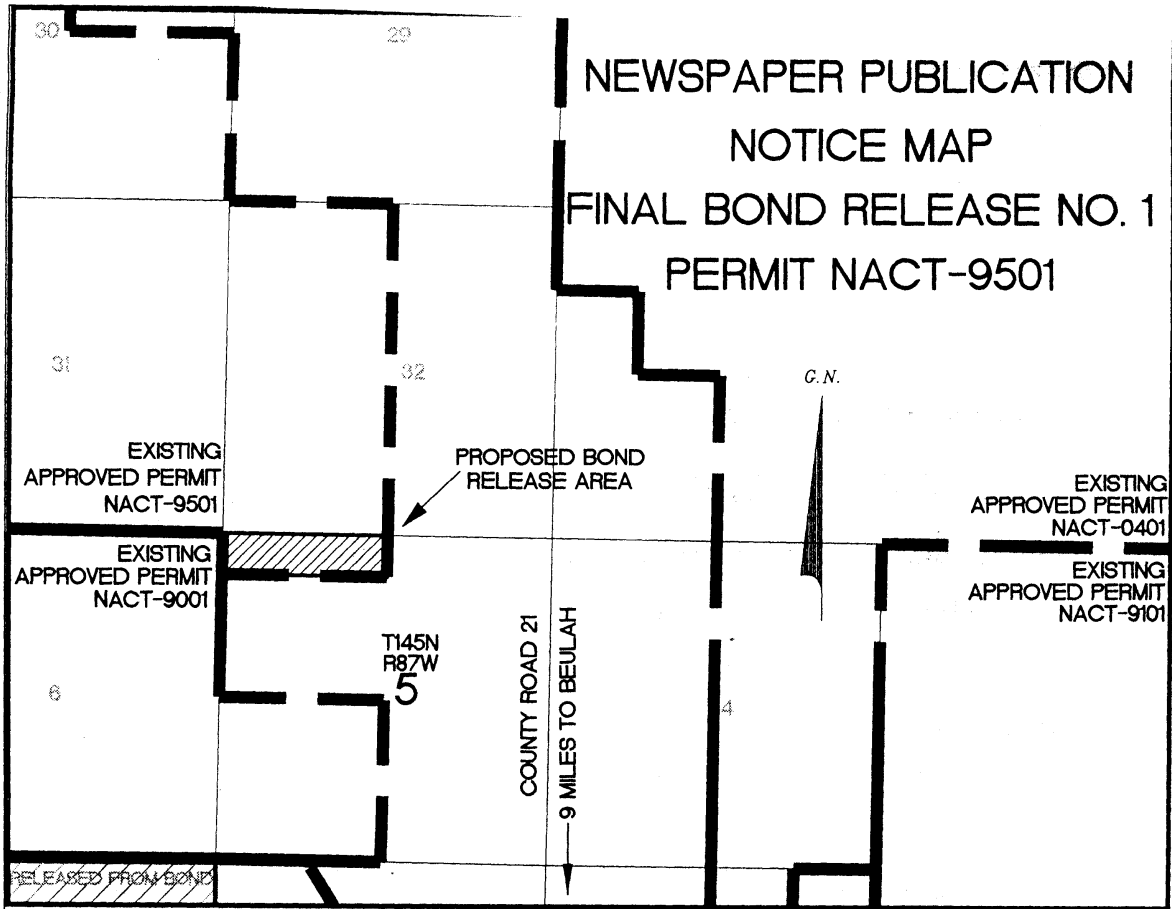
(Seal) *Darla J. Mautz*

Notary Public, State of North Dakota

My Commission Expires

DARLA J MAUTZ
Notary Public
State of North Dakota
My commission expires July 22, 2016

**NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION
NOTICE MAP
FINAL BOND RELEASE NO. 1
PERMIT NACT-9501**



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The Coteau Properties Company
204 County Road 15
Beulah, North Dakota 58523

(10-13-11-10-20-11-10-27-11-11-3-11)

Star