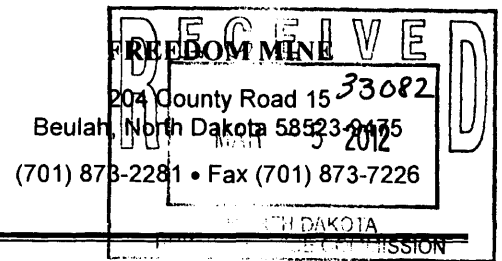


**THE COTEAU**  
**PROPERTIES COMPANY**  
A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION



March 1, 2012

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 three sets of materials for Revision 30 to Permit NACT-9101. This revision updates the permit for renewal, and provides information to address that at the end of 2012, Coteau plans to move the dragline from Permit NACT-0401 to Permit NACT-9101 Sections 11 and 12, and mine from east to west working south into Section 13 for approximately six months to facilitate time for the truck-shovel fleet to prebench in advance of the dragline in Permit NACT-0401.

Also enclosed are the original revision and renewal application forms, and a proposed legal ad and map.

Responses below refer to deficiencies in your January 3, 2012 letter:

1. These sections were submitted in Revision 29 to Permit NACT-9101 on November 21, 2011 referencing the Consolidated Legal Information Report. This revision was approved on December 28, 2011. Whenever there are changes, they will automatically be sent to you by the The North American Coal Corporation in Plano, Texas.
2. See revised pages 1-4 of Section 1.3.5.
3. See revised Sections 1.5, 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, and 1.5.4.
4. See revised page 2 of Section 3.1.2.
5. See revised page 1 of Section 3.1.4.
6. See revised page 1 of Section 3.1.5.
7. See the revised Pit Layout and Facilities Map of Section 3.1.6.
8. See the revised Pit Layout and Facilities Map of Section 3.1.6.
9. See the revised Extended Mining Plan Map of Section 3.1.7.
10. See revised page 1 of Section 3.6.1.
11. See the revised Surface Water Management Plan Map of Section 3.6.2.
12. See revised pages 1, 2, 4, and 8 of Section 4.2.1a.
13. See revised page 4 of Section 4.1.1, and revised page 11 of Section 4.1.5.



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Application for permit renewal

Coteau Properties Company  
Donn Steffen

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14. See the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2.
15. Coteau's CVSS update, Revision 13 to Permit NACT-0401, is being worked on at this time, and will be submitted at a later date.
16. Coteau's CVSS update, Revision 13 to Permit NACT-0401, is being worked on at this time, and will be submitted at a later date.
17. Coteau's CVSS update, Revision 13 to Permit NACT-0401, is being worked on at this time, and will be submitted at a later date.
18. This will be submitted in a revision to Permit NACT-0401 at a later date.

The following sections were also added/revised:

1. New pages 82-85 of Section 1.2.7 – road closure information.
2. Revised page 7 of Section 3.6.55 – lower the existing elevation of the temporary permanent pool marker at pond P-D03-02.
3. At the end of 2012, Coteau plans to move the dragline from Permit NACT-0401 to Sections 11 and 12, and mine from east to west working south into Section 13 for approximately six months. This is to facilitate time for the truck-shovel fleet to prebench in advance of the dragline in Permit NACT-0401. Because the dragline will be digging pits instead of the truck-shovel fleet as originally planned, the post-mining topography changed. See revised pages 5-6 of Section 3.1.1, the revised Pit Layout and Facilities Map of Section 3.1.6, revised page 13 of Section 4.2.1, the revised Post-Mining Topography Cross-Sections (Sheet 1) of Section 4.2.4, the revised Post-Mining Area Slope Map of Section 4.2.6, the revised Pre-Mining Area Slope Map of Section 4.2.7, revised pages 1-2 of Section 4.2.8, and the revised Post-Mining Topography Development Map of Section 4.2.9.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY



Donn R. Steffen  
Environmental Manager

DRS:lr  
Enc.

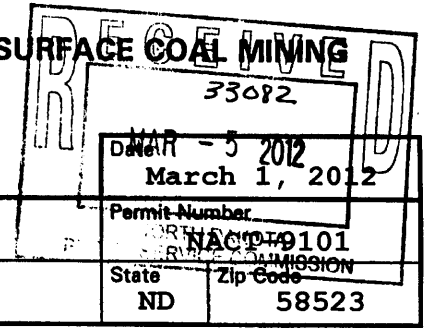
cc: Monte Erhardt (w/enc.)

This renewal is being requested because mining has not yet been completed in this permit area, and the permit is due to expire.

The bond for this permit area is sufficient, and will continue for the renewal period. Liability insurance is provided, and will be renewed on a yearly basis throughout the renewal period.



**APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PERMIT TO ENGAGE IN SURFACE COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION OPERATIONS**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**RECLAMATION DIVISION**  
 SFN 10566 (Rev. 12-99)



Name of Permittee <b>The Coteau Properties Company</b>		Permit Number <b>NACT-10101</b>
Address <b>204 County Road 15</b>	City <b>Beulah</b>	State <b>ND</b> Zip Code <b>58523</b>

The above named hereby makes application for Renewal Number 4 of the above Permit Number in order to continue to engage in surface coal mining and reclamation operations within the area described below in the permit during the period from June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2017.

The reasons for requesting the renewal is attached and any changes to the matters set forth in the approved Permit are particularly described in the accompanying revision application.

The applicable public notice provisions of Section 38-14.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code have been complied with. A copy of the advertisement is attached and affidavits of publications will be furnished to the Commission prior to issuance of the Permit Renewal.

Bond for surface coal mining and reclamation operations and liability insurance will be provided for the proposed period of renewal. Attached is a statement evidencing that the bond is sufficient and will continue in full force for the renewal period and that liability insurance will be provided for the renewal period.

LOCATION				ACRES
SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	COUNTY	
	145N	86W	Mercer	4615.211
	145N	87W	Mercer	4784.000
<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>				<b>9399.211</b>

T145N, R86W - Sections 5,6,7,8,9,15,16,17,18,21  
 T145N, R87W - Sections 1,2,3,10,11,12,13,14,15

Signature of Official <i>William R. Kihl</i>	Title <b>Staff Mining Engineer</b>
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**VERIFICATION**

Name of Official <b>Donn R. Steffen</b>
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I, the above named, being first and duly sworn, verify that the information contained in the Permit Renewal Application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Official <i>Don R Steffen</i>	Title <b>Environmental Manager</b>
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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, 20 12. My commission

expires: 09/10/15  
**LISA RYAN**  
**Notary Public**  
**State of North Dakota**  
**My Commission Expires Sept. 10, 2015**

(SEAL)

*Lisa Ryan*  
 Notary Public