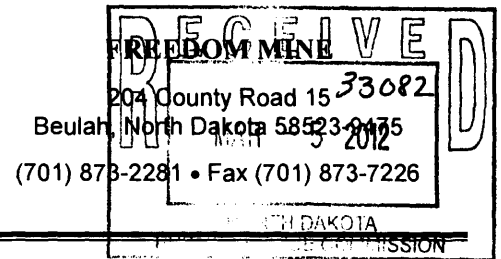


THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

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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March 1, 2012
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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.)



APPLICATION FOR REVISION OF PERMIT TO ENGAGE IN SURFACE COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION OPERATIONS
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
RECLAMATION DIVISION
 SFN 10562 (Rev. 08-2001)

RECEIVED

Date March 1, 2012 MAR - 5 2012	Revision Number 30
State ND	Zip Code 58523

Name of Company, Corporation, Partnership, or Individual The Coteau Properties Company	Permit Number NACT-9101		
Address 204 County Road 15	City Beulah	State ND	Zip Code 58523

The above named hereby makes application for the above Revision Number to: (include a brief description of the surface coal mining and reclamation operation being revised.

See Attachment 1.

Attached to this Permit Revision Application are a narrative describing the proposed permit revision, reasons for requesting the revision, and appropriate maps, cross-sections, graphs, construction details, revised reclamation plans and other data which demonstrate compliance with Chapter 38-14.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and the permit conditions of the approved permit. If an incidental boundary revision involving an acreage adjustment is being requested as part of the permit revision application, the following information shall be included (attach a copy of a metes and bounds description):

NAME OF MINE	ACRES	LOCATION			
		SEC.	TWP.	RANGE	COUNTY
Freedom Mine	N/A				
ADDRESS					
204 County Road 15					
Beulah, ND 58523					
TOTAL ACRES	N/A				

Based upon the proposed changes and any incidental boundary revisions to the permit as stated herein, a new or adjusted bond, or its equivalent, duly executed in accordance with Section 38-14.1-16 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-05.2-12 of the North Dakota Administrative Code will be delivered to the Public Service Commission prior to issuance of the surface coal mining and reclamation operations permit herein requested. A check for filing fees, pursuant to Section 38-14.1-13 of the North Dakota Century Code, in the amount of \$ -0-, is included with the revision application.

Name of Official Authorized to Represent the Applicant William R. Kirk
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I, the above named, certify that:

1. All information and documents required by Sections 38-14.1-13, 38-14.1-14, and 38-14.1-15 of the North Dakota Century Code and Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, are submitted as part of this permit application;
2. Information and documentation contained in the permit application affirmatively demonstrate that:
 - a. The permit revision application is accurate and complete and all the requirements of Chapter 38-14.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code have been complied with;
 - b. Reclamation as required by Chapter 38-14.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code can be accomplished under the reclamation plan contained in this permit revision application;

- c. An assessment of the probable cumulative impact of all anticipated mining in the general area on the hydrologic balance as specified in subdivision o of subsection 1 of Section 38-14.1-14 has been made and the proposed operation has been designed to prevent material damage to the hydrologic balance both on and off the mine site;
 - d. The area proposed to be affected is not included within an area designated unsuitable for all or certain types of surface coal mining and is not within an area under study for such designation in an administrative proceeding;
 - e. The proposed surface coal mining operation will not interrupt, discontinue or preclude farming on alluvial valley floors that are irrigated or naturally subirrigated and will not materially damage the quantity or quality of water in surface or underground water systems that supply these alluvial valley floors; and
 - f. The permit revision applicant has the legal right to surface mine the land for which this permit revision application is made and all of the requirements of Chapter 38-18 of the North Dakota Century Code have been complied with.
3. The area proposed to be affected is not included within an area where mining is prohibited pursuant to Section 38-14.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code; unless specifically allowed in accordance with the provisions of Section 69-05.2-04-01 of the North Dakota Administrative Code; and
 4. The surface coal mining and reclamation operations contained in this permit revision application will be carried out at all times in a manner which ensures that all of the requirements of Chapter 38-14.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, Article 69-05.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and any permit conditions attached thereto are complied with.

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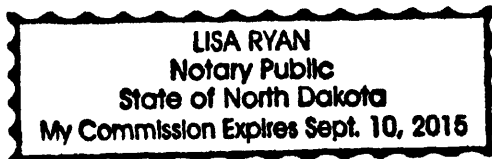
VERIFICATION

I, Donn R. Steffen, being first and duly sworn, verify that the information contained in this Permit Revision Application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Official <i>Don R. Steffen</i>	Title Environmental Manager
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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, 20 12. My commission expires: 09/10/15.

(SEAL)



Lisa Ryan

Notary Public

This revision updates introductory information, legal information, business entity/compliance information, identification of interests and rights of entry, operations plan - general, operations - surface water management, post-mining land use and revegetation, and reclamation - general for renewal #4 of this permit. This revision also 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.