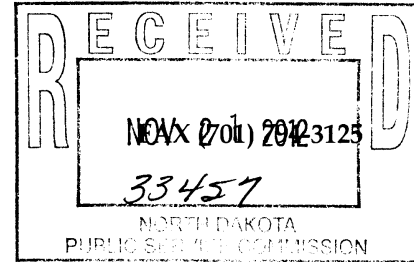
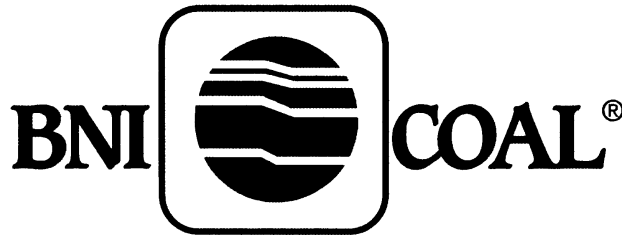


PHONE (701) 794-8734



AN ALLETE COMPANY

2360 35TH AVENUE SW CENTER, ND 58530-9499
MINING LIGNITE AT THE CENTER MINE SINCE 1970

November 21, 2012

Mr. Jim Deutsch, Director
Reclamation Division, NDPSC
Department 408
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Revision 12 to Permit BNCR-9401

Dear Mr. Deutsch,

This submittal contains a response to your letter to us dated November 19, 2012. In this letter you listed technical deficiencies that must be addressed before the permit revision application for BNCR-9401 can be deemed complete. Below is a listing of the deficiencies followed by our response:

Section 1.8 - Description of the Revised Permit Boundary

1. The metes and bounds description of the acres being added with Revision 12 is not correct. One segment of the permit boundary was omitted from the metes and bounds. There should be an additional segment (L6.5 until it can be renumbered) between line segments L6 and L7. L6.5 should read "***Thence North 65°38'25" West, a distance of 98.39 feet***" to allow the area to close properly. Please include the full description on both the Tract 1 legal description as well as the map. (MDB)

There was a segment of the boundary line that was accidentally omitted. It was between segments L17 and L18. This has been corrected on both the Map and Metes and Bounds.

2. A similar error was also noted on Plate 1.8-1, Permit Boundary Legal Description Map BNCR-9401, between line segments L17 and L18 and in Section 1.8, Metes & Bounds of Permit BNCR-9401. Please correct accordingly. This error was noted when comparing the permit metes and bounds description with those supplied with the AutoCAD drawing. (MDB)

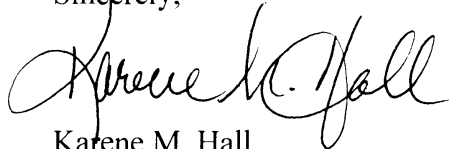
See note for item 1.

3. Please incorporate the Revision 12 additional acres metes and bound submitted in paper format into the current electronic revision as well as the corresponding map. At this time you may also wish to consider updating the title box for Plate 1.8-1 Permit Boundary Legal Description Map BNCR-9401, to match that listed on the Legal and Financial home page and in the Table of Contents, and also remove the reference to Attachment II. (MDB/WTG)

The map of the additional acres being added with Revision 12 has been inserted into the permit as Plate 1.8-2 Legal Description Additional Acres and the metes and bounds has been added to the text in Section 1.8 of the Legal and Financial Section. The Table of Contents has been updated to reflect these insertions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact me at the Center office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karene M. Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Karene M. Hall
Permit Coordinator