

**BASIN ELECTRIC  
POWER COOPERATIVE**

1717 EAST INTERSTATE AVENUE  
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58503  
PHONE: 701-223-0441 FAX: 701-557-5336



April 29, 2014



Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: ND PSC Case No. PU-13-22 (Dakota Gasification Company 10" Natural Gas Pipeline)

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

In accordance with item 19 of the Order, Basin Electric is requesting the approval of an alternate seed mix for reclamation of disturbed areas for the above-referenced project. Basin Electric seeks to use two seed mixes previously approved by the PSC for reclamation within the Coteau Properties Company (Coteau) Permit NACT-0201. The attached letter from Coteau provides additional detail regarding the seed mixes.

Two reclamation seed mixes are proposed: the "hayland mix" and the "stockpile mix." Only a few small areas would be reseeded with the stockpile mix, while the vast majority of the disturbed areas would be reseeded with the hayland mix. In addition to minor variations in the percentages of the seed species, the Coteau seed mixes also have higher application rates (more pure live seed per square foot) than the seed mixes recommended by NRCS.

The following Tables compare the NRCS recommendations with Coteau's previously approved seed mixes:

Hayland Mix	Species	NRCS	Coteau NACT-0201
	Pubescent wheatgrass	20%	20%
	Intermediate wheatgrass	20%	20%
	Western wheatgrass	30%	20%
	Green needlegrass	10%	10%
	Alfalfa	20%	30%

Stockpile Mix	Species	NRCS	Coteau NACT-0201
	Slender wheatgrass	20%	46%
	Pubescent wheatgrass (Mandan 759)	15%	9%
	Pubescent wheatgrass	30%	23%
	Tall wheatgrass	35%	23%

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We request the PSC's approval of these alternate seed mixes in order to maintain consistency with Coteau's existing permit (NACT-0201) and based Coteau's experience in successfully using the seed mixes for reclamation in the immediate vicinity of the Project.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 701.557.5495.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Solie".

Kevin L. Solie  
Senior Environmental Coordinator

/ser

Enclosures

# THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION

## FREEDOM MINE

204 County Road 15  
Beulah, North Dakota 58523-9475

(701) 873-2281 • Fax (701) 873-7226

April 28, 2014

Ms. Maria Barnhardt  
Civil Engineer  
Basin Electric Power Cooperative  
1717 East Interstate Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58503-0564

Dear Ms. Barnhardt:

The Coteau Properties Company (Coteau) has been requested to provide Basin Electric Cooperative with a recommendation for a seed mix on the Dakota Gasification Company to Antelope Valley Station Natural Gas Pipeline Project area through Coteau permitted areas.

The seed mixes provided below have been approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission within Coteau's approved Permit NACT-0201.

1. Topsoil and subsoil stockpiles, drainage diversions, pond slopes, and all associated disturbance areas (no varieties recommended; "common" may be used):

Species	PLS Pounds/Acre	PLS Seeds/Foot <sup>2</sup>
Slender wheatgrass	10	36.7
Pubescent wheatgrass (Mandan 759)	2	5.8
Pubescent wheatgrass	5	10.5
Tall wheatgrass	<u>5</u>	<u>9.1</u>
TOTAL	22	62.1

2. Croplands seeded to a pre-cropland hayland mix:

Species	PLS Pounds/Acre	PLS Seeds/Foot <sup>2</sup>
Pubescent wheatgrass (Mandan 759)	4	8.4
Intermediate wheatgrass (Oahe, Greenar, or Chief)	4	8.4
Western wheatgrass (Rodan or Rosana)	4	11.6
Green needlegrass (Lodorm)	2	8.4
Alfalfa (Travois or Ladak)	<u>6</u>	<u>28.8</u>
TOTAL	20	65.6



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All disturbed areas shall be mulched with straw mulch at a rate of 1.5 – 2.0 tons per acre. Mulch will be mechanically anchored (crimped) after application.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Terence Schmidt or me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Troy Leingang". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Troy J. Leingang  
Environmental Manager

THS/TJL:lr  
Enc.