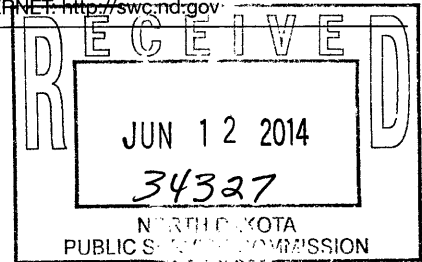


North Dakota State Water Commission

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WATER APPROPRIATION DIVISION
(701)328-2754

June 12, 2014

Mr. James R. Deutsch, Director
Reclamation Division
Public Service Commission (via INSIDE MAIL)
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Mr. Deutsch:

In a April 29, 2014 letter, you requested a review of proposed Revision Number 35 to Falkirk Mine Permit NAFK-8705 by the State Engineer. Reviews of mine permits with regards to groundwater and wells is made by a hydrologist in the Water Appropriations Division. Revision Number 35 involves matters other than groundwater and wells, and, therefore, I have no further comment on the proposed revision.

In addition, you included the Falkirk Mines *Post-Mining Hydrologic Assessment of Ground Water and Surface Water Resources at Falkirk Mine, Underwood Coal Field, West Mine Area, McLean County, North Dakota* for review. This document discusses in detail the potential and exhibited impacts to groundwater resources caused by the mining and reclamation processes in the West Mine area in regards to both groundwater occurrence and quality and the actions taken by the mining company in their Hydrologic Reclamation Plan. This documentation generally appears satisfactory to this reviewer.

One possible thing for the authors to note is that the reference to Table 3 "Ground Water Level Statistics by Mining Phases" on page 12 does not link to the correct table, and this reviewer was unable to locate the table.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Morin
Hydrologist

JM:jk/1687.13