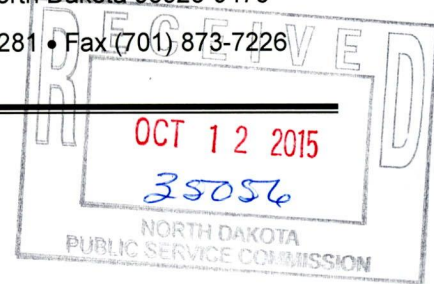


THE COTEAU
PROPERTIES COMPANY
A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION

FREEDOM MINE

204 County Road 15
Beulah, North Dakota 58523-9475
(701) 873-2281 • Fax (701) 873-7226



October 12, 2015

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 DVDs containing revised Revision 18 to Permit NACT-0201. Responses below refer to deficiencies in your October 9, 2015 letter:

1. See revised page 66 of Section 2.4.2, revised pages 2-3 of Section 2.4.4, and revised pages 1-2 of Section 4.1.3.
2. See revised page 14 of Section 2.4.2.
3. See revised pages 23 and 71 of Section 2.4.12 and revised pages 5-8 of Section 2.4.11.
4. See revised pages 1-2 of Section 2.4.10.
5. See revised pages 5 and 6 of Section 2.7.3.
6. See revised page 7 of Section 2.7.3.
7. See revised page 4 of Section 2.7.3 and the revised Potential Whooping Crane Roosting and Feeding Wetlands Map of Section 2.7.3.1.
8. Coteau's previous response was not updated following a conversation with Guy Welch stating that the slopes in Section 11 were not as steep as previously thought. Following that conversation, no changes were made to the land use in Section 11. No changes were made to Sections 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 as a result.
9. See the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2. The potential post-mining prime farmland in Section 10 has been moved to concave run-on landscapes within the same tract. The potential post-mining farmland north of the grassed waterway in Section 11 was moved to occupy less steep, concave run-on landscapes.
10. See the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2 and revised pages 1-2 of Section 4.1.3.
11. See the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2, revised pages 1-2 of Section 4.1.3, and revised Section 4.2.3.1. A comparison of Section 2.4.4 and Section 4.1.3 was conducted; during one of the previous updates to this revision, Tracts 62, 63, 64, and 65A were listed as having 7 acres of woodlands pre- and post-mining. Only 3.6 acres of woodlands were present on this tract prior to mining as listed in Section 2.4.4 and found on the Native Trees and Shrubs Map of Section 2.4.13. An error was

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made in Section 4.1.3 when Tracts 33 and 34 were combined, therefore the total woodland acreage for this tract was updated and now correctly shows 3 acres.

The woodland column in Section 4.1.3 will remain titled as pre-and post-woodlands. All acreage totals with the exceptions of Tract 108 reflect both pre- and post-mining acres, and Coteau feels it is valuable to be consistent in the representation of data on this table. The note at the bottom explains the one discrepancy in the column.

The shelterbelts in Sections 10 and 33 are now included in both the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2 and revised Section 4.1.3.

12. See the revised Post-Mining Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2 and revised Section 4.2.3.1.
13. See the revised Post-Mining and Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2.
14. See the revised Post-Mining and Topography and Land Use Map of Section 4.1.2, revised Section 4.1.3, revised Section 4.4.2.1, and revised Section 4.4.2.2.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY



Troy J. Leingang
Environmental Manager

AJH
Enc.

cc: Shana Brost, Mercer County Auditor (w/enc.)