



# Public Service Commission

## State of North Dakota

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August 7, 2015

Mr. Troy Leingang  
Environmental Manager  
Coteau Properties Company  
204 County Rd. 15  
Beulah, ND 58523

Dear Mr. Leingang:

The Reclamation Division has completed its technical review of the application for Revision 29 to Surface Coal Mining Permit NACT-0401 at the Freedom Mine. The following items must be adequately addressed prior to revision approval:

### **Section 3.1 – Operations – General**

1. New item: In describing development of the post-mining topography, Item No. 5 in Section 3.1.1.3 describes placement of boxcut material and the previously estimated boxcut overburden volume of 4,640,000 cubic yards has been struck-through and replaced in an earlier revision to the permit and that value and strike-through can be removed from the narrative. (BEB)
2. New item: Please update the Pre-Mining Topography and Existing Structures Map, Section 3.1.2, by separating the wording associated with the occupied dwelling in the NW1/4 of Section 25 in the permit so that the text is legible. (BEB)
3. New item: The Extended Mining Plan Map, Section 3.1.4, depicts a total of seven small, circular Beulah/Zap cropline and Lower Beulah/Zap subcrop locations north of the permit in Sections 23 and 24, and even one small area enveloping a portion of State Highway 1806 in the NW1/4 of Section 16. We are unsure of the intent of these displayed areas; however, we did note that in most cases those areas now mapped as B/Z cropline were previously mapped as Lower B/Z subcrop locations in approved Revision No. 28 to this permit. If it is your intent to retain the displayed information as is, please disregard this item. If updates or deletion of the information is desired, please make those changes. (BEB)
4. Follow-up to Item No. 12: Please review and update the List of Equipment in Section 3.1.1.5 since the list submitted with this review differs from the latest submitted for Permit NACT-9101. (FSE)

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**Consolidated Wildlife and Habitat Monitoring Plan**

5. Follow-up to Item No. 34 & 35: Please update the Revision 29 Summary Page, Section 1.1.2, to state that the Consolidated Wildlife and Habitat Monitoring Plan was revised with Revision 29 and briefly explain the changes made. (GAW)

Please respond in a timely manner so that the revision and renewal can be processed prior to the permit expiration. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



James R. Deutsch  
Director  
Reclamation Division