

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Reclamation Division**

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**Memorandum**

**TO:** Commissioners Christmann, Kroshus and Fedorchak  
Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary  
Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco, General Counsel

**FROM:** *DKM* *ZAB*  
Dean Moos, Zanna Brinkman and Guy Welch

**DATE:** July 19, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Application for Renewal No. 6 to Permit No. NACT-8601 held by the Coteau Properties Company, Case No. RC-17-115

On March 27, 2017, Coteau Properties Company filed the application for Renewal No. 6 to Permit No. NACT-8601 to continue to conduct mining operations within the existing permit area until July 28, 2022. Permit No. NACT-8601 covers portions of Sections 8, T145N, R87W, and Section 12, T145N, R88W, Mercer County, totaling 772.528 acres. The Reclamation Division has completed its review of this five-year permit renewal and respectfully recommends that it be approved.

Coal removal has been completed from this permit area but portions of the permit are being used to support mining in other permit areas at the Freedom Mine. This includes a subsoil storage area and an equipment access road. Revision No. 31 to Permit NACT-8601 was also filed to update various sections of the permit for the next permit term. This revision is considered insignificant since coal removal has been completed and is being approved at the same time as this renewal.

Coteau has submitted the affidavits of publication of the newspaper notice. We notified the appropriate agencies, affected landowners and the advisory committee members. We received no objections to this renewal application. Evidence of adequate performance bond and liability insurance are currently on file. Self and collateral bonds that total \$146,000,000.00 cover this and other permits at the Freedom Mine.

Attached for your consideration are the proposed motion and renewal approval form.

Minedata/Freedom/Permits/NACT-8601/Revisions/No.6/Ren6\_apprval\_memo\_7-19-17

**3** **RC-17-115** Filed: 7/19/2017 Pages: 1  
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Public Service Commission Staff  
Dean Moos, Zanna Brinkman, Guy Welch