

LEONARDITE PRODUCTS-LLC

February 6, 2018

Dean K. Moos
Director
Reclamation Division
ND Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Director Moos:

This letter is in response to the initial review of the application for Bond Release No. 1 to Permit GRGR-0501 at the Stony Creek Mine by the Reclamation Division. The following comments below itemize the changes made to the application, public notice and agency notification letters as requested by the Reclamation Division.

Thank you for your attention to this application.

Application For Final Bond Release (SFN 19813)

1. This zip code for Williston on page 1 of the bond release application has been corrected to "58802." The date of the revision is listed in red upper right corner of the application. On the first page of the application in the commentary section following the statement about the bond reduction, the word "coal" has been changed to "*commercial leonardite*."
2. The amount listed for final release of bond has been revised to read: "*All surface mining operations on 15.49 acres of Industrial land in Permit GRGR-0501 have been completed and ECO Park Landfill, LLC is utilizing the bond release area for construction of an inert waste landfill.*"

Attachment III - Newspaper Publication Map

3. The second sentence in the second paragraph of the public notice no longer reads, "*Due to continued mining and reclamation operations within this permit, the bond amount will not be reduced.*" The second sentence now reads, "*As part of this final bond release application, Leonardite Products, LLC. is requesting a bond reduction of \$181,359.00.*"
4. The zip code for Leonardite Products mailing address at the bottom of the public notice narrative has been corrected to "58802."
5. A revised newspaper notice map, provided by the Reclamation Division to Interstate Engineering is attached. The label "*Permit GRGR-0501*" is identified within the permit area and the area to be released with this bond application has been clearly labeled as the "*Final Bond Release No. 1 acreage.*"

Attachments IVa and IVb Surface Owner and Government Agency Letters

6. The letters to the surface owner, government officials and agencies will include the same information as the public notice. The map included with these letters is the same map referred to above as the revised newspaper notice map. The revised map addresses the following issues raised in the review letter dated October 24, 2017.
 - a. The font size of the township and range labels has been increased.

Director Dean Moos

February 1, 2018

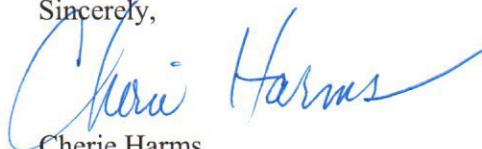
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- b. The label has been revised to read "*Permit GRGR-0501.*" The reference to the Public Service Commission has been removed.
 - c. The dashed line within the permit outlining the pits has been removed.
 - d. Stony Creek in Sections 16, 17, and 20 have been labeled.
 - e. The illustration of the railroad has been removed.
7. The second paragraph of the surface owner and government agency letters reads, "*As part of this final bond release application, Leonardite Products, LLC. is requesting a bond reduction of \$181,359.00.*"
 8. The agency letters and other pages use the term "*inert waste disposal facility*" rather than "*Inert Landfill disposal facility.*"
 9. Corrections have been made to the addressees of the ND Soil Conservation Committee to Bruce Schmidt, Extension Program Coordinator.
 10. Interstate Engineering corrected the spelling of "Stony" (no "e") on the Bond Release Tract Maps No. 1 and No. 5 and provided a bookmark for the Final Bond Release Tract map w/aerial photo that is labeled as Attachment No. 5.

The first draft of the Leonardite Products/Eco Park overburden agreement has been submitted to the Reclamation Division and is awaiting review. We understand Leonardite Products' bond calculation will be examined with the Technical Review.

We look forward to moving forward with this project. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,



Cherie Harms

President

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