

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COAL CORPORATION

FREEDOM MINE

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June 10, 2021

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

Dear Mr. Moos:

Final Bond Release #1 to Permit NACT-9001 has been uploaded to the Permit Services site. Changes to text have been tracked using track changes and highlighted in blue. Responses below refer to technical deficiencies in your June 9, 2021, letter:

Attachment X – Native Grasslands

- 1. Follow-up to items No. 9 and No. 35 of our letters dated May 7, 2021 and February 17, 2021, respectively. Attachment Xe, 2019 Production Sampling Locations, has been added to the application but no sampling data is provided that demonstrates revegetation success of the variance area in Section 1 that was seeded in 2011 and 2014. Policy Memorandum No. 20 to Mine Operators requires that vegetation measurements taken to prove reclamation success include samples taken from each variance area. Please include 2019 or 2020 production and ground cover data that includes samples taken from the variance area in Section 1 and update the tables and narrative analysis in Attachment X accordingly to demonstrate revegetation success of the reclaimed native grassland in Section 1. If 2019 or 2020 production and ground cover data is not available from the entire bond release tract then provide appropriate justification or other demonstration of reclamation success to allow the Reclamation Division to recommend approval of the bond release application. (GAW)*

2019 production sampling data from the variance area in Section 1 has been added to Attachment Xa1. Additional narrative and updated tables demonstrating the success of the variance area have been included in Attachment X.

Mr. Dean K. Moos

June 10, 2021

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If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

THE COTEAU PROPERTIES COMPANY

/s/

Dillon Belisle

Environmental Specialist

Uploaded via Permit Services