

December 6, 2023

Jonathan Emmer
Director
Abandoned Mine Lands Division
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0408

RE: 2024 Proposed Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Activities

Dear Mr. Emmer,

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality reviewed the proposed 2024 Abandoned Mine Land (AML) reclamation activities summarized in your December 4, 2023 letter. The 2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project involves backslipping and backfilling a highwall to reduce the hazard; no off-site pit dewatering is planned. The project also involves reclaiming subsidence and erosional features from abandoned underground and surface mines.

Coverage under the North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES) general construction permit will be required for the project if reclamation work disturbs one or more acres of land. Off-site dewatering of reclamation work would need coverage under the NDPDES temporary discharge permit if the overall project disturbs less than one acre of land. Contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permit information for projects that include work in a water of the United States.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the planned reclamation activity. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (701) 328-5242 or at dgrossma@nd.gov.

Sincerely,



Dallas Grossman
Environmental Engineer
Division of Water Quality

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ND DEQ Advisory Authorization to Proceed Response Letter
North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Dallas Grossman