

United States Department of the Interior



OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
Casper Area Office
PO Box 11018
150 East B Street, Room 1018
Casper, WY 82602



Authorization to Proceed (Amended)

December 3, 2024

Mr. Jonathan Emmer, Director
Reclamation & AML Divisions
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Emmer:

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has determined that the 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project has met the following criteria:

1. The project has been entered into the Enhanced Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (e-AMLIS) as PAD ND000004 in compliance with Directive AML-1.
2. Environmental documents, including compliance information for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental requirements are documented with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on November 25th, 2024.
3. The ATP request included an AML eligibility statement and basis for claiming AML eligibility.

Accordingly, pursuant to 30 CFR 886.16, you are authorized to proceed with this project and expend federal funds in accordance with AML grant terms and conditions. This project is expected to utilize funds from grants S23AF00037 and S24AF00018. If this project provides funding to a subrecipient through a subaward, the subrecipient must be approved by OSMRE separately from this ATP. OSMRE subrecipient approval can be requested either through the initial award application or through a separate request.

Sincerely

Jeff Fleischman, Chief
Denver Field Division