

Kennecott Eagle Minerals
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April 6, 2012

Mr. Joe Maki
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
420 5th Street
Gwinn, MI 49841

**Subject: Request for Amendment, Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Mining Permit MP012007,
Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company**

Dear Mr. Maki:

In 2008 Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company (KEMC) constructed a core shed building for exploration core logging and maintenance activities. The core shed building was built on KEMC private surface property (**Figure 050-GA-002**) and was not related to any Eagle mine site surface facilities at the time, and thus was not part of the issued Part 632 mine permit.

At this time, exploration core logging and maintenance activities on the private property have been reduced, and KEMC has determined that the future use of this building would be well suited as a shipping/receiving warehouse for materials needed during underground mining operations. The building could be re-purposed and fulfill the need without any added environmental impact. The re-purposing of this building necessitates a request for amendment to the mine permit to add the core shed as a surface structure.

This core shed is located outside of the contact water area (for reference, the core shed is referred to as "Existing Core Storage" on the attached figure), and will appropriately only house non-contact materials or those that have been appropriately washed prior to exiting the contact area. This location is also beneficial as a receiving location for shipments so that deliveries do not need to enter the contact area. No contact water generating activities will occur in the building, and there are no floor drains, sumps, or water utilities supplied to the shed. No bulk chemical products are anticipated to be stored in the building, although small amounts of laboratory supplies for the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) may be delivered and then distributed to the WTP.

In addition to the request to add the core shed building as a surface structure, an amendment to relocate the backfill facility is also requested. The MDEQ has previously approved the relocation of several surface facilities in August and October 2010 and May 2011. As with the previous approvals, the relocation of the backfill facility will result in the safer operation and improved environmental control of surface activities.

The backfill facility formerly located west of the main surface facility in close proximity to the Salmon Trout River, has now been placed within the fenced area near the portal and temporary development rock storage area. This constitutes a decrease in surface impacts as far as proximity of an emissions source to receptors and reduces the overall footprint of mine buildings. Additionally, trucks will not need to traffic to the previous site for delivery of aggregate, reducing fugitive dust impacts. This modification does not increase the overall footprint of the main surface operation as the facility will be built within the existing fence line.

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In accordance with the conditions of the mine permit, the financial assurance will be reviewed and amended, if necessary, and submitted with the 2012 annual mining report.

KEMC appreciates your time and consideration of this amendment request. Should you wish to discuss these issues further, or if you have any question please contact me at (906) 486-1257.

Sincerely,



Kristen Mariuzza, P.E.
Environmental and Permitting Manager

cc: Tom Wellman, MDNR
Dennis Donohue, Warner, Norcross & Judd, LLP

Enclosure

