



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



UPPER PENINSULA DISTRICT OFFICE

RICK SNYDER

KEITH CREAGH

GOVERNOR

DIRECTOR

March 9, 2016

Mr. Andrew Boushy, Vice President – Project Development
Aquila Resources Inc.
E807 Gerue Street
Stephenson, Michigan 49887

Dear Mr. Boushy:

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Mining Team has nearly completed their initial technical review of your Part 632 Mining Permit Application. The statute requires the Department to reach a proposed decision to grant or deny a mining permit within 28 days after the expiration of the public comment period. Upon request by the public, the comment period was extended 14 days, thereby resulting in a proposed decision deadline of March 15, 2016. With both the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Air Quality applications having just been determined as administratively complete, the Wetlands permit application still in the process of that determination, and taking into account that there are factors that tie all the application reviews together, it is anticipated that Mining Team will need additional time to finalize their initial technical review.

Therefore, in an effort to process all the environmental permits in a coordinated fashion, the DEQ is requesting that Aquila Resources extend the timeline to May 10, 2016, for the DEQ to make a proposed decision on your Part 632 Mining permit application. Thank you for your consideration in this regard. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Joe Maki
Office of Oil, Gas and Minerals
Upper Peninsula District Office
906-250-4015

JM:TC

cc: Mr. Hal Fitch, Chief
Mr. Rick Henderson, OOGM
File: Back Forty Project – RM8 electronic file