



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



C. HEIDI GREYER  
DIRECTOR

October 16, 2018

VIA E-MAIL

Ms. Jennifer Nutini, P.E.  
Eagle Mine, LLC  
4547 County Road 601  
Champion, Michigan 49814

Dear Ms. Nutini:

**SUBJECT: Humboldt Mill Mining Permit Application Amendment Request Final Decision - MP 01 2010**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has made a final decision to approve Eagle Mine, LLC's (Eagle) request to amend Mining Permit MP 01 2010 to allow for additional tailings from the Eagle and Eagle East ore to be deposited for final disposal in the Humboldt Tailings Disposal Facility (HTDF) located in Humboldt Township, Marquette County. The DEQ has determined that the amendment request meets the requirements of the law and the mining operation will not pollute, impair, or destroy the air, water, or other natural resources or the public trust in those resources, in accordance with Part 17, Michigan Environmental Protection Act, of the NREPA.

In accordance with Rule 425.201(5) of Part 632, the department may impose terms and conditions in a mining permit, in addition to those specified in the application, that are necessary to implement the rules and statute. In making this determination, the following amended permit conditions are hereby in effect as of the date of this letter:

- Amended Special Permit Condition F1: The permittee shall conduct ongoing characterization of the geochemistry and limnology of the HTDF throughout the milling operations, closure, and 20 years post closure to monitor the chemical and physical characteristics of the HTDF and to calibrate and adjust the model and predictions of dissolved metals and other related substances. During operations and closure, the permittee shall update predictions of how long treatment of the HTDF water would likely be required for water quality conditions to meet surface water standards after tailings disposal has ceased. Results of this monitoring shall be reported in the Annual Mining and Reclamation Report, and financial assurance estimates shall be evaluated annually, and updated as necessary to account for any added cost of water treatment during closure.

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- Amended Special Permit Condition F4: This permit only authorizes utilization of the HTDF for subaqueous disposal of tailings from Eagle and Eagle East ore. The surface elevation of tailings shall not exceed 1515 feet mean sea level (MSL).
- Amended Special Permit Condition F13: The permittee shall submit a detailed plan for final reclamation of the HTDF and must receive written approval from the DEQ prior to proceeding with final reclamation of the HTDF.
- Amended Special Permit Condition N9: The water treatment system and associated utilities shall be removed once it is demonstrated that water treatment will no longer be necessary to meet surface water quality discharge standards. Post closure monitoring of the HTDF shall begin once the approved reclamation of the HTDF is complete.

Thank you for your attention and consideration in this regard. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Melanie Humphrey, Area Geologist, Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division at 906-250-7564; humphreym@michigan.gov; or you may contact me.

Sincerely,



Harold R. Fitch, Director  
Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division  
517-284-6823

cc: Mr. Adam Wygant, DEQ  
Mr. Rick Henderson, DEQ  
Ms. Melanie Humphrey, DEQ  
File: Humboldt Mill – OGMD files