

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Dylan Fuge
Acting Cabinet Secretary

Albert Chang, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



January 11, 2024

Samantha Kretz, Environmental Engineer
GCC Rio Grande
Tijeras Mine and Mill
BE001RE

**RE: Outstanding Request for a Notice of Intent (NOI) for Off Spec Coal Pile GCC Rio Grande
Tijeras Mine and Mill**

Dear Samantha Kretz,

On December 20th, 2023 an inspection of the Tijeras Mine and Mill, Permit No. BE001RE (Permit) was completed by the New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division (MMD) along with other state and federal agencies. During this inspection, it was observed that the disposal of the off-spec coal pile in the Quarry 6 Cement Kiln Dust Pit as approved by Condition 6 (20-1).B of the Permit has not yet occurred. MMD observed that the off-spec coal pile was located in Quarry 7. Also during the inspection, GCC Rio Grande (GCC) indicated that a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for review of the off-spec coal management has not yet been submitted, as required by Permit Condition 6 (20-1).B.4:

B. DISPOSAL OF OFF-SPEC COAL ON-SITE

- 1. Disposal of Off-Spec Coal is approved in the Quarry 6 Cement Kiln Dust ("CKD") Pit area of the mine site.*
- 2. Reclamation of the Quarry 6 CDK Pit area shall be conducted in accordance with Section 5.3.1 of the current Rev. 18-1 Closeout Plan.*
- 3. Off-Spec Coal Management shall be conducted as described in the June 8, 2020 Modification 20-1 Application and Comment Response as included in the PAP.*
- 4. GCC shall submit an NOI to NMED for review of the Off-Spec Coal Management prior to placing any material in the CKD area.*

MMD will require that GCC submit an NOI to NMED within 45 days of when this letter is received. Please work with NMED to review components that should be in the NOI for the off-spec coal pile.

Should you have any questions, please contact Alaina Osimowicz, permit lead for MMD. For any question regarding the content of the NOI, please contact Amber Rheubottom of NMED at:

amber.rheubottom@env.nm.gov
(505) 660-2379.

Sincerely,

Alaina Osimowicz

Alaina Osimowicz, Permit Lead

Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARF)/MMD

(505) 490-0967

Alaina.osimowicz@emnrd.nm.gov

cc: Anne Maurer, NMED, Mining Environmental Compliance Section
Amber Rheubottom, NMED, Mining Environmental Compliance Section
DJ Ennis, Program Manager, MARF/ MMD
Carmen Rose, MARF/MMD