



New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Bill Richardson
Governor

Joanna Prukop
Cabinet Secretary

Bill Brancard
Division Director



July 15, 2009

John DeJoia, Manager
Roca Honda Resources, LLC
4001 Office Court, Suite 102
P.O. Box 130
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507

Subject: Review and Comments on Sampling and Analysis Plan, RHR, LLC, Roca Honda Mine, Permit No. MK025RN

Dear Mr. DeJoia,

Pursuant to 19.10.6.602 Subsection D (12) the New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division (MMD) has reviewed the Roca Honda Resources (RHR) April 2009 Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) in support of a forthcoming permit application for an underground uranium mine located in McKinley County. Reviews of the April 2009 SAP have been completed by the following agencies: NM Environmental Division (NMED), NM Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), NM Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), NM State Forestry Division, and the NM Office of the State Engineer (OSE). Pursuant to 19.10.6.602 Subsection D (12)(b), MMD agency review comments are provided as an enclosure with this letter.

The resulting MMD and agency reviews and comments have identified areas where more information will be needed to support the SAP. Furthermore, depending upon collected data variability, the proposed mine footprint, and operations and layout, the proposed data sampling density and intensity may require additional sampling before mine facilities are constructed.

RHR may address these comments now, or address them in the baseline database report to be included in the permit application for the Roca Honda Mine. Pursuant to 19.10.6.602 Subsection D (12)(c), RHR may request a conference with the Director, to discuss the agency reviews of the April 2009 SAP.

MMD review comments are presented in tabular form, as Enclosure No. 1 of this letter, and are provided in the attachment labeled: *7-10-2009 MMD Review Roca Honda April 2009 SAP - MK025RN*. Reviews from agencies, other than MMD, are also provided as Enclosure Nos. 1-6.

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For your convenience, MMD has provided a compilation of all agency reviews and comments for each section of the April 2009 SAP in tabular form, as Enclosure No. 7 (7-10-2009, *MMD Compilation of Agency Reviews for the Roca Honda April 2009 SAP*). The comments are identified by the reviewing agency and the SAP section to which they pertain.

Please be advised that other permits will be required regarding the Roca Honda Mine. The information provided by RHR to address SAP deficiencies may not satisfy the requirements for the eventual approval of additional permits. RHR must contact the agencies responsible for those permits to include the NMED and the OSE.

Please contact me at (505) 476-3434, or by e-mail at kathleen.economy@state.nm.us, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathy Economy, Permit Lead
Mining Act Reclamation Program (MARP)
Mining and Minerals Division

Enclosures:

- No. 1 7-10-2009 MMD Review Roca Honda April 2009 SAP - MK025RN (21 pages)
- No. 2 May 26, 2009 RE: Request for Review and Comment of the Sample and Analysis Plan for Roca Honda Resources, LLC in support of Permit No. MK025N, DCA (2 pages)
- No. 3 May 21, 2009 RE: Roca Honda Sampling and Analysis Plan, MK025RN: NMDGF Project No. 12658 (3 pages)
- No. 4 May 29, 2009 Comments on Roca Honda resources, LLC, Sample and Analysis Plan Permit No. MK025RN NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau (3 pages)
- No. 5A May 29, 2009 Additional Comments Roca Honda SAP NM OSE review (email from Myers, Kevin, OSE (1 page)
- No. 5B May 21, 2009 Review of Strathmore SAP Document for the Roca Honda Uranium Mine Site, Rev. April 2009. Reviewer: Kevin Myers, Agency Representing: OSE (6 pages)
- No. 5C NM OSE Comments Continued 5-29-09 (1 page)
- No. 6 May 26, 2009 RE: Roca Honda SAP Notification (email from Sivinski, Robert, EMNRD- Forestry Division (2 pages)
- No. 7 7-10-2009 MMD Compilation of Agency Reviews for the Roca Honda April 2009 SAP - MK025RN (53 pages)

cc: Charles Thomas, Chief, Mine Reclamation Bureau, MMD
Holland Shepherd, Program Manager, MARP, MMD
Kurt Vollbrecht, Mining Act Team Leader, NMED GWQB
Mike Johnson, Hydrology Bureau Chief, OSE
Michelle Ensey, DCA
Matthew Wunder, Director, NMDGF
Butch Blazer, State Forester, NM Forestry Division
Mine File (MK025RN)