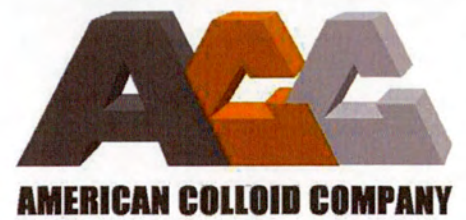


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PERMITTING & RECLAMATION DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 2010 • Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717
PH. (605) 892-6950 • FAX (605) 892-6979

October 8, 2024

Eric Holm
Department of Environmental and Natural Resources
Minerals and Mining Program
523 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

RE: American Colloid Company Notice of Intent to Conduct Mineral Exploration Operation

Eric:

Enclosed are ACC's revised documents, new bond, and other documentation per your comments. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at your earliest convenience. You may reach me by telephone at 605-892-5203 or by email at jonathan.madill@mineralstech.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Madill', is written over a light-colored background.

Jonathan Madill
Environmental Affairs Supervisor



Enclosures (1)

Exhibit A Legal Locations 4K 3V Exploration Project

<u>Township</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
9 N	1 E	5	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	6	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	7	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	8	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	8	Portions of section	ACC
9 N	1 E	9	Portions of section	ACC
9 N	1 E	15	Portions of section	ACC
9 N	1 E	17	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	18	Portions of section	Kudlock
9 N	1 E	24	Portions of section	ACC
9 N	1 E	25	Portions of section	ACC
9N	2 E	32	Portions of section	ACC
9N	2 E	33	Portions of section	ACC

**UNANIMOUS WRITTEN CONSENT OF DIRECTORS
OF
AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY
IN LIEU OF A MEETING**

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THE UNDERSIGNED, being all of the directors of AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY a Delaware corporation (the "Corporation"), hereby unanimously consent, pursuant to Section 141(f) of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the Bylaws of the Corporation, to the adoption of the following recitals and resolutions with the same force and effect as if said resolutions had been duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation:

WHEREAS, Jonathan J. Hastings and Thomas J. Meek have resigned as officers of the Corporation effective February 24, 2023.

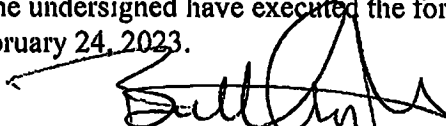
NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, each of the following persons is hereby appointed as an officer of the Corporation, having the office designated below, each to serve until his successor is designated or until his or her earlier resignation or removal:

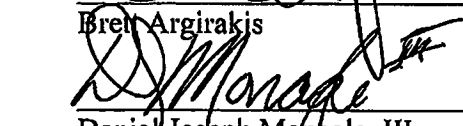
Brett Argirakis	-	Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officer
Daniel Joseph Monagle, III	-	Co-President and Co-Chief Executive Officer
Erik C. Aldag	-	Senior Vice President – Treasury and Finance, CFO
Timothy J. Jordan	-	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Michael A. Cipolla	-	Vice President, Taxes
Jeffrey A. Weeks	-	Vice President, Finance
Scott Gorman	-	Vice President, Finance
Anju Lamba	-	Vice President, Assistant Corporate Controller and Assistant Treasurer
Don Eisenhour	-	Vice President
Donald McLain	-	Vice President
Jim Papp	-	Vice President
Joann Coyne	-	Vice President
Jonathan Madill	-	Environmental Affairs Supervisor
Adena Silver	-	Director, Tax Planning
Alexander Sudnik	-	Assistant Secretary
Leon Nigohosian, Jr.	-	Assistant Secretary

FURTHER RESOLVED, that each of the officers of the Corporation be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to enter into, sign, execute, deliver and perform on behalf of the Corporation such agreements and other documents as may be necessary or desirable in connection with bonds or other financial assurances, or applications therefor, by the Corporation.

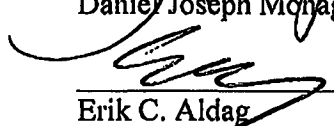
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed the foregoing Unanimous Written Consent of Directors as of February 24, 2023.



Bret Argirakis



Daniel Joseph Monagle, III



Erik C. Aldag

Being all the directors of
AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY

**UNANIMOUS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE SHAREHOLDERS
OF
AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY
IN LIEU OF A MEETING**

THE UNDERSIGNED, AMCOL INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, being the sole shareholder of AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY, a Delaware corporation (the "Corporation"), hereby unanimously consents, pursuant to Section 228 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the Bylaws of the Corporation, to the adoption of the following recitals and resolutions with the same force and effect as if said resolutions had been duly adopted at a meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation:

WHEREAS, Jonathan J. Hastings has resigned as a member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation effective February 24, 2023


NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following individuals be, and hereby are, elected to the Board of Directors of the Corporation, each to serve in such capacity until his respective successor shall have been duly elected and qualified:

Brett Argirakis
Daniel Joseph Monagle, III
Erik C. Aldag

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed the foregoing Unanimous Written Consent of the Shareholders as of February 24, 2023.

AMCOL INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION


Alexander Sudnik, Assistant Secretary

Being the sole stockholder of
AMERICAN COLLOID COMPANY

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PERMITTING & RECLAMATION DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 2010 • Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717
PH. (605) 892-6950 • FAX (605) 892-6979

October 2, 2024

Maggie Syversen
District Conservationist
NRCS, Butte County Field Office
1837 5th Ave.
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

RE: Seed mix concurrence request for notice of intent to conduct mineral exploration

Dear Ms. Syversen:

American Colloid Company is in the process of preparing a Notice of Intent to conduct mineral exploration for submittal to the SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR). State statute requires consultation with the NRCS as part of this application/approval process. A seed mix concurrence letter from your office is required for the DANR to deem the application Complete.

The exploration areas are located approximately northwest Belle Fourche between Highway 212 and in proximity to 3V Road to the Wyoming/South Dakota state line.

Proposed Activities: Exploration will consist of auger drilling to obtain a small amount of mineral for analytical purposes. Maximum depth of drilling will be approximately sixty feet. Drill holes will be placed (augured) on a grid pattern of approximately 150' X 150' between placement of holes. Exploration will be conducted, weather permitting. Access to and throughout the proposed exploration area will be via existing roads and trails. Limited off-road sampling will be conducted. Off-road sampling will be conducted in such a manner as to not cause any significant surface disturbance. No roads will be constructed during this operation. Exploration and drilling will be conducted using a four-wheel drive truck, with a rear mounted, auxiliary powered, auger drill.

Reclamation of all Disturbances: Reclamation of all disturbed areas will be completed immediately after sampling. All cuttings and materials extracted from the drill hole will be placed back into the drill hole followed by seeding the disturbed areas. ACC will take all reasonable measures to insure no unnecessary or undue degradation of lands.

See the attached Map 1.0 for a visual representation of the exploration area. Public access to the area is currently from 3V Road.

ACC proposes the following seed mixes for reclamation of all lands disturbed during the mining process.

Rangeland (Pasture) Seed Mix (for disturbance on non-hayfield lands):

<u>Species</u>	<u>Lbs. Pure Live Seed/Acre (drill seeded)</u>
Pubescent (Intermediate) Wheatgrass (<i>Thinopyrum/Agropyron intermedium</i>)	5.0
Western Wheatgrass (<i>Pascopyrum/Agropyron smithii</i>)	4.0
Slender Wheatgrass (<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>)	2.0
Streambank Wheatgrass (<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i> var. <i>riparius</i>)	2.0
Green Needlegrass (<i>Nassella viridula</i>)	2.0
Yellow Sweetclover (<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>)	0.5
Cicer Milkvetch (<i>Astragalus cicer</i>)	<u>0.5</u>
TOTAL perennial	15.5
Winter or Spring Wheat annual nurse crop (<i>Triticum aestivum</i>)	8-12

The Rangeland seed mix has previously been approved for, and is being utilized on, nearby mine permit areas.

Please review this information (map attached) and respond to me via email (address below) or letter with a statement that the NRCS concurs with the proposed seed mixes.

American Colloid Company
Attn: Jonathan Madill
P.O. Box 2010
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
jonathan.madill@mineralstech.com:

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me by telephone at 1-605-892-5203.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Madill
Environmental Affairs Supervisor
American Colloid Company



Outlook

[External] RE: [External Email]ACC Seed Mix Consultation Request

From Westlake, Andrea - FPAC-NRCS, SD <andrea.westlake@usda.gov>**Date** Fri 10/4/2024 10:42 AM**To** Jonathan Madill <Jonathan.Madill@mineralstech.com>

You don't often get email from andrea.westlake@usda.gov. [Learn why this is important](#)

**** IMPORTANT: This is an external email. Only open attachments or click links from trusted senders ****

Good Morning,

After reviewing the disturbance area and soils associated, NRCS concurs with the Hayland and Rangeland seeding mixtures selected for reclamation. The nurse crop seeding rate meets NRCS standards, as we recommend a max of 15 pounds/acre for wheat. NRCS recommends clipping the nurse crops before they become competitive with the perennial species.

Feel free to contact me if you need anything else.

Thanks!

Andrea Westlake

Rangeland Management Specialist

Belle Fourche Field Office

1837 5th Avenue S

Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Office: 605-892-3368 x3076

Cell: 605-220-4749

From: Syversen, Maggie - FPAC-NRCS, SD <Maggie.Syversen@usda.gov>**Sent:** Wednesday, October 2, 2024 3:16 PM**To:** Jonathan Madill <Jonathan.Madill@mineralstech.com>**Cc:** Westlake, Andrea - FPAC-NRCS, SD <andrea.westlake@usda.gov>; Boerboom, Justin - FPAC-NRCS, SD <justin.boerboom@usda.gov>**Subject:** RE: [External Email]ACC Seed Mix Consultation Request

Hi Jonathan –

I have passed this request along to the Belle Fourche Field Office's Range Management Specialist, Andrea Westlake (cc'd).

Maggie Syversen (She/They)

District Conservationist

SD Mentoring Program Coordinator

Belle Fourche, SD

Office: 605-892-3368 x 3075

Cell: 605-667-0022



From: Jonathan Madill <Jonathan.Madill@mineralstech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 3:07 PM
To: Syversen, Maggie - FPAC-NRCS, SD <Maggie.Syversen@usda.gov>
Subject: [External Email]ACC Seed Mix Consultation Request

You don't often get email from jonathan.madill@mineralstech.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;

Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Please send any concerns or suspicious messages to: Spam.Abuse@usda.gov

Hello Maggie:

Attached is a consultation request. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any other information.

Jonathan Madill

605 892 5203

American Colloid Company

Division of Minerals Technologies Company



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