

Hamm

To: John Cowans
From: Bob Goff
Date: September 25, 1995
Subject: Hamm Mine Water Concerns

On 9/5 Julia Schmitz, Assistant Coordinator, District Environmental Commission, worked with me on the Hamm amendment application question regarding alleged noise violation by Robert Shannon. Julia mentioned that she received a complaint from Mr. McCandless, the abutting neighbor, about mine water. With the revised Hamm Mine operation schedule in early September reducing the amount of annual mining, Luzenac can only estimate when or if the mine will fill with water. Byron McCandless, or possibly his son, wanted a condition written into the Luzenac amendment, detailing water discharge requirements.

Julia said her response was that the mine is not closing, and that clarification of water controls will be more appropriate when Luzenac files to close and reclaim the site permanently, later. The current permit expires 10/15/95. I suggested that the company contact Mr. McCandless to assure him of our intention to maintain full control of all water. We assumed the concern related to the water fill rate for the pit. Skip Hall has visited the house several times since, to assure the family and explain that Luzenac is prepared to monitor and pump the sump as required. Evidently someone from the contractor's crew, probably Mark Blais, had been over early in the month and also attempted to answer their concerns.

It seems the family is concerned also with the surface discharge from uphill, onto the meadow area and roadway into the wood lot. Skip visited this weekend and said this morning, that after the recent rain the field was pretty wet on the Saunders property, with the water flow feeding to McCandless property. Skip and I will check out this situation tomorrow morning, keeping Lance advised.

To prevent problems here, we will come back to you with any recommendations and solutions, as we want to separate this situation from the new amendment. Any work required on the far side of the Town road to trap and contain discharge flow, probably will involve discussions with Cyprus Amax.

Skip Hall
Lance Meade
Ernie Reade

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