

September 16, 2020

Tintina Montana Inc.  
Jerry Zieg, Senior Vice President  
17 E Main St.  
White Sulphur Springs, Mt. 59645

Sent by email to: [jzieg@sandfireamerica.com](mailto:jzieg@sandfireamerica.com)

RE: Approval of Minor Revision 20-001

Dear Mr. Zieg:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has reviewed Tintina Montana Inc.'s (Tintina) request to install one six-inch diameter well. The well would be drilled to a depth of up to 400 feet.

Only the installation of a well is approved by DEQ at this time. The well installation is in line with DEQ's permit approval of Phase 1 activities only. Tintina indicated its intent to use the well to obtain a groundwater quality sample. Aside from collecting groundwater samples, any future actions related to the well would require review and/or approval from DEQ before proceeding. This minor revision, to drill a well, is approved contingent upon the submittal and acceptance of \$3,407.00 in additional bond. The bond is necessary to cover the costs of well removal / plugging and reclamation of associated well installation disturbance.

While Tintina mentions in its request another potential action of conducting a pump test from the new well, DEQ does not have adequate information to review and/or assess that possibility at this time. Should Tintina decide to request a pump test in the future, then Tintina would need to make the request to DEQ via a separate permit change request. At a minimum, Tintina would need to provide DEQ with an assessment of the groundwater quality and the details of the pump test before a pump test could be reviewed and/or analyzed by DEQ.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Wayne Jepson  
Hard Rock Mining Bureau  
(406) 431-9019 or email at [wjepson@mt.gov](mailto:wjepson@mt.gov)

Attachment: bond calculation, 00188\_2020\_09\_16\_Bond\_Calc\_MR20-001.xlsx

File 00188.3