



May 25, 2018

Jerry Zieg, Vice President of Exploration
Tintina Montana, Inc.
PO Box 431
White Sulphur Springs MT 59645

RE: Completeness Determination for Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit number MT0031909

Dear Mr. Zieg:

On April 25, 2018, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) received an updated Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit application (Forms 1, 2D and 2F) and on December 11, 2017, applicable fees, from Tintina Montana, Inc. for the Black Butte Copper Project. DEQ reviewed the application, supplemental materials, and fees for completeness. DEQ determined the permit application is complete.

DEQ anticipates beginning the public notice period for the draft MPDES permit within 90 days of the draft Environmental Impact Statement being issued. DEQ cannot issue a draft permit prior to the issuance of the draft EIS (ARM 17.30.1372(4)). DEQ plans to hold a 45-day public comment period with the potential for the public comment period being reopened or extended if information or arguments raise substantial new questions concerning the permit. Once DEQ has considered and responded to all significant comments a final permit will be issued. DEQ anticipates issuing a final permit within 6 months of the closing of the public comment period.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during the permit process. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (406) 444-5326 or at jmay@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff May", is written over a circular blue stamp.

Jeff May
Water Protection Bureau
Montana Department of Environmental Quality

CC: Greg Bryce, Project Manager
Hydrometrics, Inc.
3020 Bozeman Ave.
Helena MT 59601