**Mining Bureau- Hard Rock Mining Section**

**Application for Revision to Hard Rock Mining Operating Permit**

During the term of an operating permit issued under the Metal Mine Reclamation Act (MMRA), an operator may apply for a permit revision as described in subsections 82-4-342(6)(g) through (k), Montana Code Annotated (MCA). Section 82-4-342(6), MCA states:

*“The department is not required to prepare an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement for the following categories of action and permit revisions:*

*(g) changes in a permit boundary that increase disturbed acres that are insignificant in impact relative to the entire operation, provided that the increase is less than 25 acres or 10% of the permitted area, whichever is less;*

*(h) changes to an approved reclamation plan if the changes are consistent with this part and rules adopted pursuant to this part;*

*(i) changes in an approved operating plan for an activity that was previously permitted if the changes will be insignificant relative to the entire operation and the changes are consistent with subsection (5)(g);*

*(j) changes in a permit for the purpose of retention of mine-related facilities that are valuable for postmining use;*

*(k) modifications to a tailings storage facility that result in a minor expansion to the facility if:*

*(i) the proposed modification is certified by the seal of the engineer of record;*

*(ii) the capacity increase resulting from the expansion is no greater than 15% of the capacity of the existing tailings storage facility; and*

*(iii) the modification complies with 82-4-376(2)(l) and (2)(dd) and is exempt under subsection (6)(g), (6)(h), or (6)(i) of this section; and*

*(l) applications for rock product permits and amendments pursuant to 82-4-343.”*

**Form Directions:** The permittee must include sufficient information within the permit revision application to demonstrate that the proposed activities or modifications fit the criteria provided by Section 82-4-342(6), MCA. The permit revision application must also include all information required by the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.24.120, as outlined and cited within the format of the following pages. DEQ must rely on thorough information provided by the applicant on the form and in any attachments or referenced permit documents to evaluate the potential significance of the proposed activity and the applicability of the exemption criteria outlined above. In the absence of conducting an environmental review, DEQ cannot further supplement the record for the proposal.

1. **Please provide detailed answers on the following application form and submit any reports, maps or figures, cover letter, or other supplemental information that may be needed to explain and support the proposed permit revision.**
2. **Applications for proposed changes to the Construction, Operating, Reclamation, Monitoring, and/or Contingency Plans for an operating permit must include corresponding replacement pages, maps, figures, or complete copies of revised plan documents.**
3. **Please save the completed form, preferably as Adobe PDF, and submit all application materials to the following parties:**
   * **DEQ Hard Rock main account (**[**deqhardrock@mt.gov**](mailto:deqhardrock@mt.gov)**)**
   * **Millie Olsen, Section Supervisor (**[**millie.olsen@mt.gov**](mailto:millie.olsen@mt.gov)**)**
   * **Lead inspector for your operating permit (*varies*)**

\*\*DEQ provides a separate file that shows an example revision application for a hypothetical scenario. In the actual permit revision application, the permittee should provide a similar level of site-specific details to adequately address the scope of proposed changes and potential significance of impacts\*\*

**Application for Revision to Hard Rock Mining Operating Permit**

Submittal Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Operating Permit Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Permittee Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Permittee Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Revision Location (legal description or latitude/longitude): Click or tap here to enter text.

List of Application Attachments: Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **General summary explaining the revision-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(a)*

**Response** (explain the proposed modification; summarize disturbance and permit areas; summarize relevant plans for operation, reclamation, and/or monitoring; identify any attachments):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Applicant’s rationale for asserting non-significance pursuant to 82-4-342(6), MCA (provided above)-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(b)*
2. Surface Disturbance

**Does the revision include changes to the permit area, disturbance area, or bonded area?**

No

Yes, see the following:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Current (acres)** | **Proposed (acres)** | ***Change***  ***(acres)*** |
| Total Permit Area |  |  |  |
| Total Area Permitted to be Disturbed |  |  |  |
| Disturbance Area\* |  |  |  |
| Area Bonded for Disturbance |  |  |  |

*\*Proposed disturbance may be the total area permitted to be disturbed or a portion (increment) of that area. Please see the Final Permit or other permit approval documents for the Proposed Disturbance Area.*

**Response to explain the selection:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Water Quantity and Quality
2. **Does the revision include modifications, disturbance, or activities that may influence stormwater runoff flow paths, runoff or sediment management features, and/or outfalls?**

Yes

No

**Response to explain the selection** (details about stormwater conveyance; current and proposed management and monitoring systems; address any updates required for other water quality permits):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Does the revision include modifications, disturbance, or activities that may influence surface water features, groundwater, onsite water uses, storage or conveyance methods, water treatment, and/or discharge?**

Yes

No

**Response to explain the selection** (details about nearby surface water and groundwater; current water uses, management, and/or monitoring systems; address any updates required for other water quality or use permits):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Air Quality

**Does the revision include modifications, disturbance, or activities that may influence air quality from potential sources of fugitive dust, equipment, facilities, and/or other emission sources?**

Yes

No

**Response to explain the selection** (details about dust control on disturbed areas and emission sources; management and monitoring systems; address any updates required for other air quality permits):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Historical and Cultural Resources

**Does the revision include modifications, disturbance, or activities that may influence historical or cultural resources?**

Yes

No

**Response to explain the selection** (details about potential historical or cultural resources; summary of any previous investigations or consultation with State Historic Preservation Office; plans for avoidance, mitigations, or contingencies):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Identify previous environmental analyses relevant to the revision-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(c)*

**Response** (reference the Environmental Assessment(s) or Impact Statement(s) completed for the initial permit application and/or subsequent permit amendments; summarize how these analyses apply to the areas or plans associated with the revision):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Reference prior commitments to topsoil salvage, sediment control, reclamation, and other previously approved plans or standards-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(d)*

**Response** (describe prior commitments, plans, and applicable methods, through site-specific details or summarize with specific citations to text in other existing documents; describe how the proposed revision is consistent with these standards or explain any proposed changes):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Document the adequacy of existing bonding-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(e)*

**Current Obligated Bond Amount:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Current Unobligated Bond Amount:** Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Is the existing bond adequate to address the reclamation costs resulting from the proposed revision?**

Yes

No

Cost Estimate Attached, Total Amount: Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **If unobligated bond is available, would you like to apply this amount to the bond increase resulting from this revision?**

Yes

No

N/A

**Response to explain the selection** (consider all aspects of reclamation methods and costs that would result from the proposed revision, including: disturbance acreage; material balance for backfill, grading, and/or soil placement; decommission and remove equipment, facilities, and infrastructure; revegetation and weed control; current rates for equipment and personnel, etc.):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Replacement pages and maps for the approved Operating and Reclamation Plans-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(f)*

**The proposed revision results in modifications to the following document(s):**

Operating Plan

Pages Attached (Redline/tracked changes)

Pages Attached (Clean version)

Maps/Figures Attached

Reclamation Plan

Pages Attached (Redline/tracked changes)

Pages Attached (Clean version)

Maps/Figures Attached

**Response to explain the selection** (summarize the replacement pages and figures that are needed to reflect the details of the proposed revision; explain if attachments are included with the application or provide a deadline for submittal to DEQ):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Construction, Operating, Reclamation, Monitoring, and Contingency Plans-** *ARM 17.24.120(1)(g)*

**The proposed revision results in modifications or updates to the following document(s):**

**Construction Plan**  Attached (Redline/tracked changes)  Attached (Clean version)

**Operating Plan**  Attached (Redline/tracked changes)  Attached (Clean version)

**Reclamation Plan**  Attached (Redline/tracked changes)  Attached (Clean version)  **Monitoring Plan**  Attached (Redline/tracked changes)  Attached (Clean version)

**Contingency Plan**  Attached (Redline/tracked changes)  Attached (Clean version)

**Response to explain the selection(s)** (based on other details provided for this revision, identify any documents and/or figures that need to be updated; explain if attachments are included with the application or provide a deadline for submittal to DEQ):

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. **Updated or comprehensive facilities map(s) clearly indicating the proposed revision features and all areas subject to pre-July 1, 1974, bonding levels**- *ARM 17.24.120(1)(h)*

Updated map(s) attached

Pre-July 1, 1974, disturbance is shown

Pre-July 1, 1974, disturbance does not occur at the site

**Response to explain the selection(s)**:

Click or tap here to enter text.