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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
STATE OF WYOMING

Office of the Attorney General

Governor
Mark Gordon

Water and Natural Resources Division
109 State Capitol
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002
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Chief Deputy Attorney General
Ryan Schelhaas

Attorney General
Bridget Hill

Division Deputy
David DeWald

April 10, 2024

By Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

7018 0680 0000 8136 9230; 7018 0680 0000 8136 9247; 7018 0680 0000 8136 9254

Cedar Rim Opal, LLC
Attn. Mr. Lonnie Woodward
719 E. Main St.
Riverton, WY 82501

Paul M. Kraus & Julie A. Kraus
1927 Laxalt Way
Elko, NV 89801-2696

U.S. Bank
801 Idaho Street
Elko, NV 89801

Re: Notice of Proposed Bond Forfeiture

Dear Mr. Woodward; Mr. and Mrs. Kraus; and U.S. Bank:

Pursuant to Wyoming Statute § 35-11-421, the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality is seeking forfeiture of the following bonding/financial assurance instruments, which were deposited pursuant to the bonding provisions of the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act, Wyoming Statute §§ 35-11-101 to -2101 (the "Act"), as follows:

Permit--LE-0306:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| - Paul M. Kraus and Julie A. Kraus Check No. 2623 | \$5,000.00 |
| - U.S. Bank Cashier's Check No. 3754506961 | \$10,000.00 |

Cedar Rim Opal, LLC is the permit holder for license to explore 0306 (LE0306) and the related financial assurance instruments listed above. On March 8, 2023, the Wyoming Department

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of Environmental Quality (“WDEQ”), Land Quality Division (“LQD”) issued Notice of Violation (NOV), Docket Number 6200-23 for violation of the Act, including but not limited to Wyoming Statute § 35-11-901. Cedar Rim Opal, LLC failed to initiate and complete reclamation of the site as specified in the NOV and remains in violation of the Act.

Accordingly, the WDEQ now seeks forfeiture of the financial assurance instruments listed above, which were posted to ensure reclamation of this operation and performance of license conditions. On March 14, 2024, the WDEQ sought approval from the Wyoming Environmental Quality Council (“Council”) to initiate bond/financial assurance forfeiture proceedings. On March 27, 2024, the Council approved WDEQ’s request and issued its written order approving the request on April 8, 2024. A true and correct copy of the Council’s April 8 *Order Granting Department’s Request to Begin Bond Forfeiture Proceedings* is attached hereto.

Per Wyoming Statute § 35-11-421(b), the Wyoming Attorney General’s Office is hereby notifying you that the Department seeks an order from the Council forfeiting the financial assurance instruments identified in this letter. The Council will order forfeiture of the financial assurance instruments in question unless you make a written demand for a hearing to the Council within thirty (30) days after receiving this notice. If the financial assurance documents are forfeited, the forfeited financial assurance instruments and funds will become the property of WDEQ according to Wyoming law.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact me at (307) 777-7832 or gregory.weisz@wyo.gov.

Sincerely,


Gregory Weisz
Senior Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure: Council Order, 1 p.

cc: Kyle Wendtland, LQD Administrator
LQD Division 2, Lander, Supervisor Nancy Williams
Robin Goodnough, Natural Resources Program Principal

Wyoming Environmental Quality Council
2300 Capitol Ave.
Hathaway Bldg. 1st, Room 136
Cheyenne, WY 82002