



HISTORY  Colorado

September 15, 2011

Angelique Diaz
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Phil Egidi
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
222 South 6th Street, Room 232
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Re: Pinon Mill Ridge Project (CHS Project Nos. 51835, 54524, 55427)

Dear Dr. Diaz and Mr. Egidi:

We received correspondence from Mr. Sean Larmore, ERO Resources Corp., dated August 31, 2011 requesting formal review and consultation of documentation related to the subject project.

Following our review of the original documentation in 2008 and 2009 the following determinations for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) were made:

1. Sites 5MN8269, 5MN8284, 5MN8286, and 5MN9206 are **eligible** for the NRHP. Please note that these sites are also automatically considered eligible for the Colorado State Register.
2. A finding of **not eligible** for the NRHP remains appropriate for the following resources: 5MN8270, 5MN8271, 5MN8272, 5MN8273, 5MN8274, 5MN8275, 5MN8276, 5MN8277, 5MN8278, 5MN8279, 5MN8280, 5MN8281, 5MN8282, 5MN8283, 5MN8285, 5MN8287, 5MN8288, 5MN9207, 5MN9208, and 5MN9209.
3. Isolated finds 5MN8289, 5MN8290, 5MN8291, 5MN8292, 5MN8293, 5MN8294, 5MN8295, 5MN8296, 5MN8297, 5MN8298, 5MN8299, 5MN8300, 5MN8301, 5MN8302, 5MN9210, and 5MN9211 are **not eligible** for the NRHP.

We agree with the management recommendations as stipulated in the letter and report titled "Operational Monitoring Plan, Pinon Ridge Mill Facility, Montrose County, Colorado" and concur that NRHP eligible sites within the area of potential effects (APE) should be avoided by ground-disturbing activities. If these sites cannot be avoided, we agree that additional consultation with our office regarding assessment of effects to these resources is warranted. Finally, the mitigation measures stipulated in the cultural resource section (Section 8) provide an appropriate basis for future discussion.

Please remember that the consultation process does involve other consulting parties such as local governments and Tribes, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 are required to be notified of the undertaking. Additional information provided by the local government, Tribes or other consulting parties may cause our office to re-evaluate our comments and recommendations.

Should unidentified archaeological resources be discovered in the course of the project, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility criteria (36 CFR 60.4) in consultation with our office. Should human remains be discovered, the requirements under State law CRS 24-80 part 13 apply and must be followed.

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Colo. Dept. of Health
Grand Jct. Office

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Mark Tobias,
Section 106 Compliance Manager, at (303) 866-4674 or mark.tobias@chs.state.co.us.

Sincerely,



for Edward C. Nichols
State Historic Preservation Officer
ECN/MAT

cc. Sean Larmore, ERO Resources Corp., 1065 Main Ave., Ste. 200, Durango, CO 81301