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STATE OF NEVADA
Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

August 23, 2019

Tom Williams
Vice President of Environmental Affairs
Fiore Gold – Gold Rock Mine
8310 South Valley Highway, Suite 180
Englewood, CO 80112

Mr. Williams:

I appreciate being able to participate in the most recent discussions concerning the mitigation associated with the expansion and operation of the Gold Rock Mine. I look forward to additional meetings with you and the staff from BLM and NDOW as we strive to achieve effective mitigation for the mining operation.

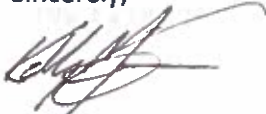
As you are likely aware, the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council adopted Mitigation Regulations on April 29, 2019. The regulation states that "Mitigation of residual direct or indirect anthropogenic impacts resulting in potential habitat loss or degradation as defined by the Nevada Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan and the Nevada Conservation Credit System (CCS), within Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Management Areas is required when the anthropogenic disturbance is subject to state or federal review, approval, or authorization, as ordered by Nevada Executive Order 2018-32, signed on December 7, 2018."

Although the Record of Decision for the Gold Rock Mine was signed prior to the Executive Order, we also acknowledge that within the Record of Decision, it states that "Within 90 days of issuance of the ROD, the BLM and the proponent, in coordination with NDOW and the SETT, will develop the offset mitigation implementation agreement for the selected mitigation option...no later than 90 days after issuance of the ROD." We look forward to continuing our participation in developing the mitigation implementation agreement for the selected mitigation option.

We intend to use the CCS to calculate the amount of credits developed within the mitigation sites to assess the mitigation achieved in comparison to the amount of debits produced by the mining activity that were also assessed using the CCS. This is an essential element in reporting to the federal agencies (especially the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a part of any review conducted on the status of the Greater Sage-grouse) whether or not the minimum standard of "no-net-loss" is being achieved.

If you would like additional information on the CCS, please visit our website at sagebrusheco.nv.gov, or contact me at the information below. I have also included a copy of the approved regulations for your review. I look forward to our continued collaborations as we strive to achieve conservation gains within Nevada's sagebrush ecosystem.

Sincerely,



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CC: Maria Ryan, BLM; Alan Jenne, NDOW; Jon Raby, State Director, BLM
Attachment: Mitigation Regulation