SAN ▪ JUAN ▪ BASIN
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

September 24, 2015

(b) (6) [redacted]
Location Code: GKMSW23
(b) (6) [redacted]
Durango, CO 81301

Dear (b) (6) [redacted],

We are attaching copies of the validated results for samples collected on or near your property,

The samples were submitted to a private certified laboratory to be analyzed for total metals. The analysis included metals that could potentially be present in sediment deposited as a result of the release from the Gold King Mine incident on August 5, 2015.

EPA has worked closely with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment to evaluate the conditions in the Animas River following the Gold King Mine incident. Surface water and sediment samples results for the river system as a whole are being maintained at pre-event conditions. It is important to keep in mind that metal concentrations in water and sediment may fluctuate. Fluctuations occur because of weather and other events that change water flow rates or volume. They can also occur if sediments are accumulating at a higher than normal rate at a particular site, before being washed away by the next high water event.

Samples collected from your property are consistent with the other samples collected after the river returned to pre-event conditions. In addition, samples collected from your property also meet risk-based screening levels for recreational use.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Cynthia Peterson, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at (303) 312-6879.

Sincerely,

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

Enclosure