To: Martinez, Isidra[Martinez.Isidra@epa.gov]
Cc: Paula Hallimae[phallimae@aquilaresources.com]; Williams, Felicia[Williams.Felicia@epa.gov]; Kelley, Jeff[kelley.jeff@epa.gov]
From: Barry Hildred
Sent: Tue 3/13/2018 12:24:08 PM
Subject: Re: Aquila Resources, Back Forty Project

Thank you Isidra,
I can make any of those days work except for March 28th.

Barry

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 12, 2018, at 2:02 PM, Martinez, Isidra <Martinez.Isidra@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello Mr. Hildred

Thanks for reaching out. We would like to offer some time to meet.

Both Cathy Stepp, Administrator and Ed Chu, Deputy Administrator would like to meet with you. Please let us know if the week of March 26 or April 2 would work for you.

Thanks!

From: Barry Hildred [mailto:BHildred@aquilaresources.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2018 7:36 AM
To: Chu, Ed <Chu.Ed@epa.gov>
Subject: Aquila Resources, Back Forty Project

Re: EPA 404 Objection letter, Aquila Resources, Inc. Back Forty Project, Request for a Meeting

Deputy Regional Administrator Chu:

This message follows up on our brief telephone conversation two or three weeks ago concerning the Back Forty Project. As we discussed, Aquila has applied to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a wetland fill permit under Part 303 of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, since Michigan has been delegated CWA Section 404 wetland permitting authority. EPA however retains the authority to review certain wetland permit applications for fills of an acre or more, and has exercised this authority over Aquila's permit application, which Aquila filed with the DEQ on December 8, 2017. Thursday, March 8th, EPA sent an objection letter on the permit to MDEQ, requesting that certain additional information about the project be provided to EPA. While Aquila believes that the formal objection letter was not necessary and creates unwarranted additional administrative burdens on both Aquila and MDEQ, we are also confident we can address these information requests in a manner that is satisfactory to EPA and resolve the objections.

Because of tight statutory deadlines however, time is of the essence, and Aquila strongly believes a meeting with Region 5 leadership to discuss the objections and Aquila's responses would best facilitate speedy and efficient resolution of the objection letter in a manner that will avoid delays in DEQ's processing of Aquila's application. I and my team would be available for such a meeting any time after March 19th. We believe it is important that you and Administrator Stepp attend, as well as any additional members of Region 5 staff you think appropriate. We can also reach out to MDEQ, who may also want to attend the meeting.

Thanks for attention to this matter,

Barry Hildred.

Barry Hildred
President and CEO

<image001.jpg>

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