

MILE POST 7 WEST RIDGE RAILROAD RELOCATION, DAM EXTENSIONS, AND STREAM  
MITIGATION PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET (EAW)

RECORD OF DECISION – FINDING OF FACT 28.cc  
1982 MASTER PERMIT RENEWAL AND AMENDMENT

**DNR Document Accessibility Acknowledgment**

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting Bill Johnson at 651-259-5126 ([bill.johnson@state.mn.us](mailto:bill.johnson@state.mn.us)) or Jill Townley at 651-259-5168 ([jill.townley@state.mn.us](mailto:jill.townley@state.mn.us)).

| |



STATE OF  
**MINNESOTA**  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA • 55155

DNR INFORMATION  
(612) 296-6157

August 6, 1982

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve Mining Company  
Edward T. Fride, Attorney  
Hanft, Fride, O'Brien & Harries  
1200 Alworth Building  
Duluth, MN 55802

Armco, Inc.  
G. Alan Cunningham, Attorney  
Faegre & Benson  
1300 Northwestern Bank Building  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Republic Steel Corporation  
William T. Egan  
Rider, Bennett, Egan, Johnson & Arundel  
900 First Bank Place West  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith is a Permit Renewal and Amendment for Reserve Mining Company's Mile Post 7 on-land tailings disposal system. As is apparent, the document renews the August 23, 1977 Amended Permit until August 2, 1987.

Arlo Knoll, from the DNR Division of Minerals, is the primary contact for matters relating to the Mile Post 7 permit or its renewal.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Alexander  
Commissioner

JNA  
enclosure

RECEIVED

AUG 12 1982

WASTE MANAGEMENT  
BOARD

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

In the Matter of the Application  
By Reserve Mining Company for  
Permits for the Mile Post 7 On-Land  
Tailings Disposal Plan at Silver Bay,  
Minnesota

PERMIT RENEWAL AND  
AMENDMENT

August 2, 1982

Reserve Mining Company, Armco, Inc., and Republic Steel Corporation (referred to collectively as "Permittee") are hereby granted a renewal to the Amended Permit dated August 23, 1977, as provided by the terms of that permit. The renewal shall expire August 2, 1987, and may be further renewed in accordance with the terms of the August 23, 1977 Amended Permit.

This renewal shall be contingent upon the timely submission by the Permittee to the Commissioner of a preliminary plan for closure and perpetual maintenance, as described in Part IX B, pp. 23-24, of the August 23, 1977 Amended Permit. Timely submission shall be deemed within 180 days of the issuance of this renewal.

The terms of the August 23, 1977 Amended Permit and all subsequent approvals and amendments shall remain valid and in force except as may be amended or altered herein.

The August 23, 1977 Amended Permit is hereby amended in the following specific respects only (additions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by ~~cross-outs~~):

## DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

1. ~~Five~~ Four main tailings containment dams, known as Dams Nos. 1, ~~2-3-4~~, 2 and 5, with associated starter dams, and Dam No. 6.

2. Five seepage recovery dams downstream from Dams Nos. 1, ~~2-3-4~~ and 2 and the combined dike and seepage recovery system at dam 5, with associated pumping and pipeline facilities.

## III. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL PERMITS

### A. Term of Permit

This permit shall become effective on the date of issuance by the Commissioner. This permit shall expire August 2, ~~1982~~ 1987. The permit may be renewed by the Commissioner for five-year intervals upon written request by the Permittee made not later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

## V. TAILINGS CONTAINMENT DAMS

### A. Description

#### 1. Dams 1 and ~~2-3~~ 2

These dams will be constructed to ultimate crest elevation 1315 mean sea level, over a period of years, according to a predetermined construction schedule. The starter dam for Dam No. 1 will be constructed of compacted sands and gravels with an upstream impervious zone of compacted glacial till. The starter dam for Dam No. ~~2-3~~ 2 will be constructed of compacted glacial till. Dams Nos. 1 and ~~2-3~~ 2 will be constructed principally of compacted coarse tailings with an upstream impervious zone of compacted glacial till and riprap slope protection on the upstream faces.

Appropriate filter zones will be included between the several types of embankment materials. Filter and drain zones are proposed to be installed between the embankments and foundations. Permittee's plans show

the location of a seepage recovery dam downstream of Dam No. 4 as described in the Amended Permit of August 23, 1977, (herein incorporated into Dam 2). There is no application for this structure. The Permittee shall provide detailed plans and specifications for the seepage recovery structure as part of the requirements for Dam No. 4 as described in the August 23, 1977 Amended Permit (herein incorporated into Dam 2).

## 2. Dams 4, 5 and 6

Dams 4, 5 and 6 are proposed to be constructed to ultimate crest elevation 1315 mean sea level, over a period of years. The Starter Dams for Dams 4 and 5 are is proposed to be of compacted glacial till. Permittee's ~~plans show the location of a seepage recovery dam downstream of No. 4. There is no application for this structure. The Permittee shall provide detailed plans and specifications for the seepage recovery structure as part of the requirements for Dam No. 4.~~ No starter dam is proposed for Dam 6 in the conceptual plans. Dams 4 and 5 are is proposed to be constructed principally of compacted coarse tailings with an upstream impervious zone of compacted glacial till and riprap slope protection on the upstream faces. Appropriate filter and drain zones will be included as for Dams 1 and 2--3. 2. Dam No. 6 is proposed to be of compacted glacial till with a downstream zone of sand and gravel and riprap protection on the upstream slope. A filter zone will be included beneath the riprap.

No foundation exploration data for Dams 4, 5 and 6 have been provided. As required by the terms of this permit, the Permittee shall provide all necessary foundation exploration and design studies to enable the Commissioner to evaluate the suitability and final design of these dams.

IX. PLANS FOR CLOSURE AND PERPETUAL MAINTENANCE


A. Requirement of Plans

The Permittee shall prepare and submit to the Commissioner plans for closure and perpetual maintenance which will address the Permittee's plans for both an unanticipated or premature closure (temporary or permanent) of operations and for the ultimate intended termination of operations. The plans for closure and perpetual maintenance, at a minimum, shall address the following issues:

B. Preliminary Plans

A preliminary plan for closure and perpetual maintenance in the event of premature closure (temporary or permanent) shall be submitted to the Commissioner within 180 days of the issuance of this permit.

Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota, this 6th day of August, 1982.

  
JOSEPH N. ALEXANDER  
Commissioner of Natural Resources

EJR