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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

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IDWR/NORTHERN

January 13, 2015

Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Re: Evidence of Priority Date for CSRBA Claim 94-4267

Dear Mr. Clelland,

I am writing you in response to your letter sent to Essential Metals Corp on November 26, 2014 requesting evidence of the priority date for CSRBA claim 94-4267. Water right 94-4267 (the "Water Right") was appropriated in 1969 for use at the antimony plant/refinery facility (the "Facility") located along Big Creek in Shoshone County. The Facility is owned by the Sunshine Refining Company (the ownership name change form is included herewith). Sunshine Refining Company purchased the Facility, along with the Water Right, from Essential Metals Corp in October of 2013. Prior to ownership by Essential Metals, the Facility was owned and operated by Sunshine Mining Company, the original owner of the Facility and the original appropriator of the Water Right.

The Water Right was acquired and first put to beneficial use by Sunshine Mining Company in 1969 for use in the Facility to extract antimony from ore mined at the Sunshine Mine. The antimony plant was built in 1969 and operated through the late 1990s. The antimony plant was eventually demolished in 2004. Throughout the operation of the antimony plant, the Water Right was used for various tasks related to the operation of the Facility, including for process water, firefighting and other general industrial uses.

In 1984 a silver refinery was constructed immediately adjacent to the antimony plant and operated by Sunshine Mining Company and later by Essential Metals Corp. Following the construction of the silver refinery, the Water Right was used to supply water to both the antimony plant and the silver refinery for various industrial uses. Since 1969, the water has been drawn from the same point of diversion along Big Creek. The allocated amount of water under the Water Right is drawn from Big Creek and pumped to a holding tank adjacent to the Facility. From the holding tank water is used throughout the Facility.

If you have any questions or comments please don't hesitate to contact me at (208)783-1701 or TClyne@ssmines.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tyson Clyne".

Tyson Clyne

Environmental Superintendent
Sunshine Mining and Refining Company

cc: Richard Hall, Stoel Rives LLP