



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Sent via email only

December 15, 2023

Stephen Twyerould
President & CEO
Excelsior Mining Arizona, Inc.
2999 N. 44th Street, Suite 300
Phoenix, AZ 85018

**RE: Approval of Trial Well Stimulation Activities
Class III Underground Injection Control Area Permit R9UIC-AZ3-FY16-1
Excelsior Mining Arizona, Inc.**

Dear Mr. Twyerould:

We reviewed the proposed Trial Well Stimulation Plan and Procedures submitted by email on November 27, 2023 for well stimulation activities in select Injection/Recovery wells for the Excelsior Mining Arizona, Inc., Gunnison Copper Project in Cochise County, AZ. This letter provides EPA's approval of the plan and procedures, and authorizes Excelsior to proceed with the two trial well stimulation activities on Trial 1 Wells 5474, 5475, 7759, 5406 and/or 5407 and Trial 2 Wells 5408 or 5340A as specified and outlined in the submittal pursuant to Part II.E.7 of the Class III UIC Area Permit R9UIC-AZ3-FY16-1 (Permit).

Hydraulic containment of stimulation fluids is required to be maintained at all times in accordance with Parts II.E.1.a, II.E.5, and II.F.5 of the Permit. Excelsior is also required to report on the results in the quarterly report as described in Part II.G.2.m of the Permit.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 972-3971 or contact Nancy Rumrill of my staff at (415) 972-3293.

Sincerely,

David Albright
Manager, Groundwater Protection Section

cc: Dan Reeder, ADEQ
Vimal Chauhan, ADEQ