

March 13, 2026

Mr. Paul Smith, Planner
Town of New Castle
P.O. Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

**RE: Coal Ridge Substation
Engineering Comments for C.U.P.**

Dear Paul,

Please let this letter serve to transmit our comments regarding the review of the information provided to the Town for the Conditional Use Permit Application prepared by HDR and Tetra Tech on behalf of Xcel Energy for the Proposed Coal Ridge Substation. We have had an opportunity to review the information provided noted as follows:

1. Site Plan
2. Landscape Plan
3. Visual Simulation Elevations
4. CUP Narrative
5. Floodplain Development Permit
6. Grading Permit SWMP Maps and Grading Memo
7. Watershed Permit Application

Given our review of the foregoing, please note the following:

1. Prior to construction and at the time of a mandatory preconstruction meeting, provide the Town in advance for final review, a revised set of Grading, Landscaping and Construction drawings that provide construction level detail of the following:
 - a. Retaining wall construction details identifying specific heights, cross section, material construction, foundation construction, etc.... Currently, no specific details for construction exist that allows construction to commence along with requisite inspection and adequate construction confirmation.
 - b. All drawings need to be stamped by a Colorado Registered Professional Engineer.
 - c. Provide details with detailed locations of guard rail placement for both temporary and final conditions.
 - d. Provide specific details as to how culverts are to be installed along with details of the specific installation requirements for revetment/erosion protection of culvert inlets and outfalls.

- e. Provide specific details of final paving and how the final paving of driveways are to tie to CR 335. Provide specifications for depth of concrete, control joints, expansion joint locations, etc...
- f. Provide specific details of concrete lined swale complete with expansion and control joints. Also, provide details of inlet and culvert installations complete with pipe size, material, bedding requirement, trenching requirements and path repair details. Note that if excavating the bike path, provide saw cut joints and a 1 ½" milled 24" wide overlap of the existing asphalt at the joint when paving back the bike path final lift. Replacement depth of road base and asphalt should be 8" and two 1 ½" asphalt lifts respectfully.
- g. Provide details of all fencing, gates, etc... proposed for construction.

With the Floodplain Development Permit, the proposed site and grading plans to represent that the proposed improvements do not negatively impact the floodplain of the Colorado River and therefore, this letter can serve as an approval of such with the caveat that the final copy of the provided information having been provided to the Town with a stamped version by a Colorado Registered Professional Engineer.

For the Watershed Permit, the application provided does represent that the project will provide no impact to the Town's intakes and therefore, this letter can serve as the approval of that application with the caveat that the final submittal document also be stamped by a Colorado Registered Professional Engineer.

Upon your receipt and review, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

SGM



Jefferey S. Simonson, PE
Principal, Town Engineer