



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

July 18, 2014

Mr. John P. Ary
Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.
P.O. Box 841
Cañon City, CO 81215

Ms. Angela M. Bellantoni
Environmental Alternatives, Inc.
1107 Main St.
Cañon City, CO 81212

**Re: Evans #2 Pit, File No. M-2000-041,
Adequacy Review No. 5 (AM-01) – Groundwater Monitoring Plan**

Dear Mr. Ary and Ms. Bellantoni:

On July 17, 2014, the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) received the Evans Pit #2 aka Pueblo East Pit Groundwater monitoring program. Also included was an unsigned copy of the proposed groundwater mitigation plan. The Division received an electronic version (pdf file) of the mitigation plan signed by all parties on July 16, 2014. It should be noted that the signature on the Southwest Farms, Inc signature page was not notarized.

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments to the groundwater monitoring program. The Division acknowledges that separating impacts from mining and non-mining activities on the water table in the vicinity of the Evans #2 pit will be difficult given the number of variables involved. However, data acquired from a regular monitoring plan will provide better data for future evaluation of potential impacts than what is currently available. The following comments are posed to help further discern potential impacts from both mining and non-mining activity.

1. Figure 1 – The Division believes an additional monitoring well northwest of the Phase 1 pit (just south of the “Alluvial Aquifer Boundary” label in the upper left corner of Figure 1) could potentially provide invaluable data. This area is near the “maximum estimated dewatering radius of influence = 3,300 feet” northwest of the Phase 1 Pit and near the area Southwest Farms believes to be impacted by the current dewatering activities. Please include an additional monitoring well northwest of the Phase 1 Pit in the vicinity of the 3,300-foot radius of influence or provide sound rationale for why such a monitoring well cannot or should not be included in the groundwater monitoring plan.
2. Table 1 – Monitoring holes 2, 3, and 4 do not have surface elevations needed to determine groundwater elevations from depth to water measurements. The surface



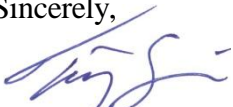
elevations for monitoring holes 1, 5, and 6 are listed as approximate. Please commit to providing surveyed surface elevations for all monitoring holes.

3. Please confirm that none of the proposed monitoring holes are used for any purpose other than monitoring (e.g., water supply that may cause a local depression of the water table). It would also be useful to identify other wells in the vicinity that are pumped regularly (i.e., more frequent than for purging required for water quality monitoring).

The 365-day **decision date** for this application is **July 31, 2014**. Please be advised that if you are unable to satisfactorily address any concerns identified in this review before the decision date, the Division may deny this application

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (303)866-3567 x8169.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Cazier, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist

ec: Tom Kaldenbach, DRMS
Tyler O'Donnell, DRMS
John Sliman, Southwest Farms, Inc.
DRMS file