



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203

March 25, 2016

Andre LaRoche
Transit Mix Concrete Co.
444 E. Costilla St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

**RE: Objections and Comments to 112c Reclamation Permit Application
Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry; DRMS File No. M-2016-010**

Mr. LaRoche:

The Division has received timely objections and comments to the Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry application. The objections and comments were received within the public comment period that began when the application was called complete for the purposes of filing on March 8, 2016, and before the public comment period ends on April 19, 2016.

Timely objections received:

- 1) On March 15, 2016, the Division received an objection from William and Marion Baker, dated March 10, 2016
- 2) On March 18, 2016, the Division received an objection from Chelsea Luttrall, dated March 18, 2016. Ms. Luttrall sent her mailing address via email on March 22, 2016
- 3) On March 22, 2016, the Division received an objection from Robert A. Nathan of Asthma & Allergy Associates, PC and Research Center, dated March 15, 2016
- 4) On March 25, 2016, the Division received an objection from Sara Harper and Kathie Rawson of Red Rock Valley Estates Neighborhood Association, dated March 15, 2016
- 5) On March 25, 2016, the Division received an objection from Chris Burnell of Turkey Canon Ranch Homeowners Association, dated March 21, 2016
- 6) On March 25, 2016, the Division received an objection from Mark McClurg of Highlands of Turkey Canon Ranch Homeowners Association, dated March 22, 2016

Timely agency comments received:

- 7) On March 22, 2016, the Division received a comment from History Colorado, dated March 17, 2016



Copies of the objections and comments are enclosed for your records. Please inform the Division of how the Applicant intends to address the jurisdictional issues raised by the objectors.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129, or by email at amy.eschberger@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Amy Eschberger
Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosure(s): Objection and comment letters as listed above, numbers 1-7

CC: Paul Kos, Norwest Corporation (via email)
Wally Erickson, DRMS



AMY
WHITE

William & Marion Baker
3375 Turkey Canon Ranch Road
Colorado Springs, CO
80926

RECEIVED

MAR 15 2016

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

March 10, 2016

Ms. Amy Eschberger
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Eschberger,

We recently received notice that Transit Mix Concrete Company (a subsidiary of Continental Materials Corporation, a non-resident entity based in Chicago, IL) has applied for a permit (# M2016010) to open a new quarry on Hitch Rack Ranch near Colorado Springs. _____

On March 2nd, Mr. Jerry Schnabel of Transit Mix presented the quarry plan to approximately 85 property owners along Highway 115. **No one** in attendance expressed support for the quarry.

As a committee representing (or comprised of?) property owners along Southwest Highway 115, we unanimously object to Transit Mix Concrete Company's proposal for the following technical issues that fall within your jurisdiction:

1. Blasting operations.
 - a. Adverse impacts on fracture flow wells in the Eagles Nest HOA.
Adverse impacts on wells and the water table east of the proposed quarry.
 - b. Potential landslides affecting access to Little Turkey Creek Road.
 - c. Degradation of air quality for residents and livestock.
2. Excavation.
 - a. Creates adverse impacts on scarce water resources, induces contaminate runoff and exacerbates flash flooding along Little Turkey Creek.
3. This mining operations will create unacceptable noise levels for residents due to truck traffic, blasting and the operation of excavating and rock crushing machinery.
4. Air quality will be severely degraded due to truck and machinery emissions and dust created by truck traffic, blasting operations, excavation and rock crushing machinery
5. Wildlife movement away from the area and loss of biodiversity as a result of truck traffic, blasting operations and rock crushing machinery

Mr. Schnabel admitted that Transit Mix has been studying this project for two and one half years. We, the property owners, have only been aware of the quarry proposal since approximately March 2nd. Obviously, we are at a severe disadvantage in that we have only a short time to review the 800 plus page Transit Mix proposal, consult with the soil conservation district, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the US Army Corps of Engineers and

other organizations and subject matter experts in order to analyze the potential impacts. While we will continue to research the technical aspects and adverse impacts in greater detail, we hope that DRMS will acknowledge our limited ability to do so due to time constraints.

Respectfully



Copy to:

Mr. Doug Lamborn, US House of Representatives, Colorado's Fifth District

Mr. Kevin Grantham, State Senator, District 2

Mrs. Lois Landgraf State Representative, District 21

WILLIAM & MARION BAKER

3375 TURKEY CANON RANCH ROAD
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
80926

BILL 630 240 2465
MARION 630 240 0296
BILL: WNB533@AOL.COM
MARION: KENYA533@AOL.COM

----- Forwarded message -----
From: chelsea luttrall <chelsea@myjourmeyracing.com>
Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2016 at 11:39 PM
Subject: Letter of Concern regarding Transit Mix Concrete Company along Highway 115
To: DMG_web@state.co.us, michael.cunningham@state.co.us, kim.harvill@state.co.us

Hello, the attached letter is my letter of concern regarding the lot the Transit Mix Concrete Company is planning on building on along Highway 115.

Please confirm that my letter has been received by the correct person. Thank you!

Chelsea Luttrall
Co-owner/Director
phone: [719-761-4133](tel:719-761-4133)
email: chelsea@myjourmeyracing.com



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MAR 18 2016
DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY



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MAR 18 2016

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY**

Friday, March 18, 2016

To the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety:

My name is Chelsea Luttrall and my husband and I have land along highway 115. Our address is 10010 Hwy 115. I have three main concerns with the opening of another quarry-type business along this stretch of road and I will address them each here. Thanks for taking our comments.

Safety: My husband and I enjoy riding our bikes; both road and mountain biking. I also know that we're not the only ones to use Hwy 115 for biking. It's a popular endurance road ride. However, in the current situation, I have many safety concerns for bikers (and even drivers).

Currently, the shoulder is too narrow in many areas—especially in areas where there is a bridge, the shoulder disappears. This makes it dangerous for bikers even when all riders and drivers are following all traffic laws.

When the quarry truckers are driving, the trucks are wide and take up the entire lane, which does not afford bikers an adequate amount of safe space. Additionally the quarry trucks lose rocks out of their loads on a regular basis. This again is dangerous to drivers who are getting their windows chipped, but also to bikers who are at risk of getting hit by rocks.

Even more disturbing is this experience I had just last week. I was driving Northbound on highway 115 to return to Colorado Springs. I was following a fully loaded quarry truck at the speed limit. A second empty quarry truck was Southbound barreling far too fast and passing us, simultaneous to a THIRD fully-loaded quarry truck driving slowly on the shoulder. Again, he was driving in the shoulder! Being immediately behind 3 trucks passing each other on a two lane section of highway is terrifying. If I had been a road biker in the north bound shoulder, I would have been dead as there was no place for a biker or the trucks to go.

The quarry drivers drive dangerously. I've seen time and time again that the quarry drivers drive these trucks as if they are Mini Coopers - fast and without respect for the giants that they are. It's unsafe at the current capacity of trucks. I'm fearful of what a 50% increase of trucks would bring.

I imagine the number and weight of the trucks prematurely wears the pavement compared to a normal rate of deterioration.

Because the presence of the quarry trucks increases the level of wear on the highway, decreases biker and driver safety and increases the need for wider lanes and more consistent and wide shoulders, I feel that the state and county have a right and need to insist upon a highway upgrade fee as well as a continued highway use tax from all quarry companies to help fund the updating and maintenance of a safer and sustainable road.



Asthma and Allergy Concerns: My husband and I are nearing the beginning of building for our new home. We are designing that house in such a way that it will help me escape some of my chronic allergy issues that exist in our current apartment-living situation. I'm allergic to dust and grass pollen. And I'm sure I'm not the only one in the area who has allergy and asthma issues.

Allergens and irritants can trigger asthma attacks for those with asthma, but they can even cause chronic sinus infections, colds, and other sicknesses for those who don't have allergies. Personally, dust has been known to trigger my asthma. I'm concerned about the additional introduction of dust and other mining irritants into the air. In an area known to have high winds, how will large amounts of dust be kept from blowing into nearby communities? Are there additional irritants or chemicals used for this project that might become wind-born?

Noise and Foundation Fracturing: I'm sure this is one that has been well talked about in the public letters of concern. But since we already have to deal with the noises from Fort Carson, I know I'd prefer to keep all other noise down as much as possible; especially during resting hours. This is for rest purposes, but additionally, I'm concerned that large blasts that recur over time, may increase neighboring house foundation fracturing. I've been near a quarry, on adjacent property during blasting, and the level of the blasts shook the ground and would definitely cause house foundation damage over time. How can the company ensure that there will be no adjacent property damage over time and no annoyance from the noise?

Thanks so much for taking and considering our concerns. My husband and I appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Luttrall





Wally Erickson
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567 ext. 8176 | F 303.832.8106
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203
wally.erickson@state.co.us | <http://mining.state.co.us>



Letter of concern.pdf
157K

chelsea luttrall <chelsea@myjourneyracing.com>

Tue, Mar 22, 2016 at 9:52 PM

To: "Erickson - DNR, Wally" <wally.erickson@state.co.us>

Cc: Johnie Abad - DNR <johnie.a.abad@state.co.us>, Amy Eschberger - DNR <amy.eschberger@state.co.us>, Michael Cunningham - DNR <michaela.cunningham@state.co.us>, Tim Cazier <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

>> Thanks for the reply. My lot address, soon to be our house address is 10010 Highway 115, Colorado Springs, <<
CO 80906. Our current mailing address is 2453 Gold Rush Drive, #4, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

Chelsea Luttrall

Co-owner/Director

phone: 719-761-4133

email: chelsea@myjourneyracing.com



AME

ASTHMA & ALLERGY
ASSOCIATES, PC
AND RESEARCH CENTER

M-206-010

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MAR 22 2016

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY**

Robert A. Nathan, MD
Diplomate of the American Board
of Allergy and Immunology

March 15, 2016

Daniel F. Soteres, MD MPH
Diplomate of the American Board
of Allergy and Immunology

Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety
1313 Sherman Street
Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Luke M. Webb, MD
Diplomate of the American Board
of Allergy and Immunology

To Whom It May Concern:

Debra Walters, MSNP
Nurse Practitioner - Certified

As a respiratory specialist in Colorado Springs for 37 years, I'm keenly aware of potential triggers for the asthmatic and COPD population. It has been brought to my attention that Transit Mix Concrete Company is looking to put in a cement facility in southwest Colorado Springs, within less than a mile from homes in that area. Do they know how far this fine particle dust that's being created can fly? If similar to pollen, it can impact the airways of asthma and COPD patients as far as 3-4 miles away. There needs to be due diligence among the Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety to make sure that this is not going to create an unnecessary respiratory burden for the patients in this area of Colorado Springs.

Wendy A. Bulow, PA-C
Physician Assistant - Certified

Thank you for your consideration in this potential health issue.

Sincerely yours,



Robert A. Nathan, M.D.

WWW.AACOS.COM

MAIN: (719) 473-0872

TOLL FREE: (800) 533-3900

FAX: (719) 630-3658

2709 N. TEJON STREET, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80907

fp:
RED ROCK VALLEY ESTATES
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

March 15, 2016

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

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MAR 25 2016

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

Comments

Ms. Amy Eschberger:

The proposed Reclamation and Mining development at Hitch Rack Ranch; submitted by Transit Mix Concrete Company, Permit No. 2016010, would bring a large-scale aggregate mining development unnecessarily close, and abutting in at least two areas, to residential, [A-5] neighborhoods. Quarry development brings significant, *long-term* consequences to the environment, public health, safety, and well-being of the effected and adjoining neighborhoods due to: substantially increased truck traffic, dust, and noise pollution, to an area that is known for its strapped natural resources - water, and highest fire danger area. All the while, juxtaposed to the area's unparalleled natural beauty, abundant wildlife, wildlife habitats, and wildlife migratory trails, make this development both undesirable and unsustainable. Therefore, the Ad Hoc committee, *Highway 115 Citizen's Advisory Committee*, was formed to represent the residential sub-divisions along the corridor; that either abut, or are in close proximity to the proposed reclamation mining site. As a member of the Advisory Committee, Red Rock Valley Estates Neighborhood Association cannot support this development and is; therefore, opposed to the development for the following reasons:

- Quarrying requires drilling and blasting with explosives, which create vibrations, noise, and dust. Once this process is completed, rock crushing machines crush the rock, conveyor belt machines move the rock around the processing plant; trucks are loaded and unloaded. The process and heavy machinery required to mine, is intrusive and creates significant noise and air pollution; thus having a direct impact on the surrounding areas and community.
- Air quality is compromised and diminished by the fugitive dust associated with aggregate mining. Dust generated by mining often contains silica, a common naturally occurring crystal found in most rock beds. Prolonged exposure to silica may result in silicosis. According the Centers for Disease Control, "[s]ilicosis is a disabling, nonreversible and sometimes fatal lung disease caused by over exposure to respirable crystalline silica... Over exposure to dust that contains microscopic particles of crystalline silica can cause scar tissue to form in the lungs, which reduces lung's ability to extract oxygen from the air we breathe." In addition to silicosis, inhalation of crystalline silica particles has been associated with other diseases, such as bronchitis and tuberculosis. This is a health issue for the abutting and nearby residential home owners and their livestock.
- The proposed quarry will create increased truck traffic by approximately 624 trucks per day, in addition to the existing truck traffic from the three operating quarries. This will create traffic

hazards detrimental to the safety of County residents as well as the bicyclist and motor bike clubs and individual "bikers" who use the 115 Southwestern Corridor as a major thoroughfare due to the area's geographic and aesthetic appeal.

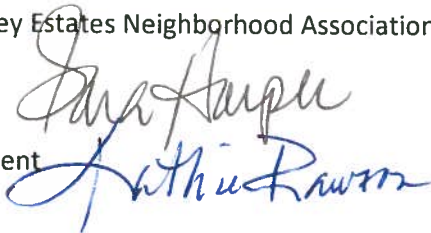
- The Bauer Ranch and Eagle's Nest neighborhoods have one entrance and one exit rendering them land locked in the event of fire, traffic accident, blasting accident, landslides due to blasting, etc.
- Currently there are three existing quarries within an 8 mile radius; these quarries are currently operating at half their capacity. A better plan; and a plan that would have less impact to the community and surrounding area would be to expand the existing quarries. This would also be consistent with our Master Plan – Southwestern/Highway 115 Comprehensive Plan.
- Wildlife, wildlife habitats, wildlife migratory paths and biodiversity will be lost. An environmental study needs to be completed, rather than take the word of the applicant, that there are no endangered species located on the land or nearby lands. The proposed quarry site could be in violation of the Federal and State Endangered Species Act. The Mexican Spotted Owl, "*Strix occidentalis lucida*", is State and federally threatened, and has been identified in the Southwestern/Highway 115 Corridor.
- Moving dirt and extracting rock from the ground alters the flow of water runoff. The abutting neighborhoods depend strictly on well water supplies for all their water needs. There is potential for well contamination and/or damage, or complete loss from nearby blasting, contamination from blowing dust, and water runoff. Additionally, the heavy equipment necessary for quarrying, and that uses gasoline, diesel, oil and transmission fluids; can potentially leak these fluids. Small amounts to larger spills can contaminate 100' to 1000's of gallons of ground water.

Quarrying requires heavy equipment, blasting, drilling, earthmoving, all of which create noise and dust, and, would certainly diminish the quality of life and well-being of the adjacent land owners and surrounding area. Southwestern/Highway 115 Corridor's unparalleled natural beauty will be compromised and the landscape densely populated with quarries and their side effects. The 115 Southwestern Highway area is currently taxed by the activities and traffic associated with Fort Carson, Cheyenne Mountain State Park, RV Parks, and privately owned parks opened to the public, within the surrounding area. Protection of the land, environment, and public health, safety, and wellbeing is consistent with our constitutional rights. Red Rock Valley Estates Neighborhood Association, in alliance with the "Highway 115 Citizen's Advisory Committee", the citizens, and the fellow neighborhoods along the corridor, is standing strong in opposition to the proposed quarry development.

On behalf of Red Rock Valley Estates Neighborhood Association and its Board of Directors,

Sara Harper, President

Kathie Rawson, Vice President

The block contains two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature, for Sara Harper, is written over the text 'Sara Harper, President'. The second signature, for Kathie Rawson, is written over the text 'Kathie Rawson, Vice President'.

11465 Calle Corvo
Colorado Springs, CO 80926
11795 Calle Corvo
Colorado Springs, CO 80926



FR:
Homeowners Association
Formed 10-18-93, Recorded in El Paso County, 10-22-93, Book 6290, Pg 860

15575 Henry Ridge Heights,

RECEIVED

Colorado Springs,

MAR 25 2016

CO 80926,

719-321-5123

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY**

21 March 2016

Ms. Amy Eschberger
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Comments

Dear Ms. Eschberger,

I am the President of the Turkey Canon Ranch Homeowners Association. I represent the interests of 29 owners in a private subdivision of some 1100 acres that is situated alongside Highway 115 on the Front Range, some 11 miles South of Colorado Springs.

It has recently come to our Board of Directors attention that an Application (Permit#M20160110) for a new quarry has been filed with your Division by the Chicago based, Transit Mix Company. The potential site selected lies on private land known as the Hitchrack Ranch, which is a 1550 acre property located approximately 2 miles north of us. Lying between our property and the Hitchrack Ranch is the Aiken Preserve, a 1600 acre Nature Conservancy managed State property.

Whilst we are somewhat protected from the potential immediate effects of the proposed quarry we are nevertheless extremely concerned about the overall impact on our neighborhood. Accordingly, we have already pledged our support to a locally organized citizen's action committee that will represent all affected residents along the Hwy 115 corridor.

Of particular concern to us are the following:-

Road Traffic and Safety – The current application indicates a maximum 2 million ton yearly extraction. This will result in a possible approximate of 650 truck movements per day. As we already have three working quarries along the Highway that each generates similar truck numbers, we are well aware of the stress and strain placed on CDOT and our First Responders. This proposed additional traffic will increase wear and tear on our roads and require additional tax dollars. It will also increase windshield and body damage to other vehicles and, it could cause severe safety hazards when accessing or egressing the site.

Wildlife Disruption – We note that the applicant has conducted their own environmental impact study on the proposed site and have concluded that their operation will not affect any endangered species or other animals. However, many of our residents and those living closer to the site believe this not to be the case. The area in question is clearly marked on Department of Wildlife maps as the prime migration route for the Fort Carson Elk herd. Also, a number of residents believe they have seen Mexican Spotted Owls close to the site. It is also known that the owners of the Hitchrack Ranch conducted their own extermination of Prairie Dogs recently.

Some believe that they were the endangered Black Tail variety. Of course, this will now be hard to prove. As the property is already zoned by the County Assessor as Agricultural Pastureland and, is even acknowledged to be Wildlife Habitat in the Application, it is hard to believe that wildlife will not be affected by this venture.

Effect on Home Values – The Applicant has stated that there will be no visibility of the quarry site from the Highway. Furthermore, their management has stated that this will not result in further blight on the Front Range landscape. Our residents have little confidence that this will be the case. The Applicants existing quarry operation at Pine View, above Colorado Springs, offers a wonderful example of how not to conduct quarry operations. Remediation of that quarry may even be impossible!

A number of our residents' properties are at elevation, looking down towards the proposed quarry site. They are concerned that this will impact there home values. With home values ranging from \$800,000 to \$3,000,000, the effects could be devastating.

Clearly, this Application will have a serious effect on our overall quality of life. Our community already lives with a quarry in its midst, albeit hidden from our view, and knows only too well the effects that exist. It is extremely hard to accept that an area of beauty such as the Front Range can be so tarnished by one corporate interest that does not even have ties to the State. Its argument for its survival appears to hinge on a weak case that it satisfies local demand. And yet, other local Colorado companies state that they can match the demand without the need for additional quarries.

The residents of Turkey Canon Ranch are vehemently opposed to this Application and feel that our existing Regional Development Plan should be the basis upon which any development in our area is considered. We will attempt to influence all State and County officials accordingly and will fully support the efforts of our Hwy 115 neighbors to do the same. We strongly recommend that you turn down this Application.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Burnell', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Burnell
President TCRHOA

Note: A copy of this letter has also been sent to State Senator Randy Baumgardner for his information.

March 22, 2016

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2016

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

Comments

Ms. Amy Eschberger:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the twenty-three properties located in the Highlands of Turkey Canon Ranch ("the Highlands").

The proposed Reclamation and Mining development at Hitch Rack Ranch; submitted by Transit Mix Concrete Company, Permit No. 2016010, would bring a large-scale aggregate mining development unnecessarily close to our neighborhood. Quarry development brings significant, *long-term* consequences to the environment, public health, safety, and well-being of the affected neighborhoods due to: substantially increased truck traffic, dust, and noise pollution, water supply disruption and a significant increase in fire danger. An Ad Hoc committee, *Highway 115 Citizen's Advisory Committee*, was formed to represent the residential sub-divisions along the corridor; that either abut, or are in close proximity to the proposed reclamation mining site. As a member of the Advisory Committee, the Highlands cannot support this development and is; therefore, opposed to the development for the following reasons:

- Quarrying requires drilling and blasting with explosives, which create vibrations, noise, and dust. Once this process is completed, rock crushing machines crush the rock, conveyor belt machines move the rock around the processing plant; trucks are loaded and unloaded. The process and heavy machinery required to mine, is intrusive and creates significant noise and air pollution; thus having a direct impact on the surrounding areas and community.
- Air quality is compromised and diminished by the fugitive dust associated with aggregate mining. Dust generated by mining often contains silica, a common naturally occurring crystal found in most rock beds. Prolonged exposure to silica may result in silicosis. According the Centers for Disease Control, "silicosis is a disabling, nonreversible and sometimes fatal lung disease caused by over-exposure to respirable crystalline silica... Over-exposure to dust that contains microscopic particles of crystalline silica can cause scar tissue to form in the lungs, which reduces lung's ability to extract oxygen from the air we breathe." In addition to silicosis, inhalation of crystalline silica particles has been associated with other diseases, such as bronchitis and tuberculosis. This is a health issue for the abutting and nearby residential home owners and their livestock.
- The proposed quarry will create significantly increase truck traffic by approximately 624 trucks per day, in addition to the existing truck traffic from the three operating quarries. This on a highway that is already one of the most dangerous passageways in Colorado. This will create traffic hazards detrimental to the safety of County residents as well as the bicyclist and motor

bike clubs and individual "bikers" who use the 115 Southwestern Corridor as a major thoroughfare due to the area's geographic and aesthetic appeal.

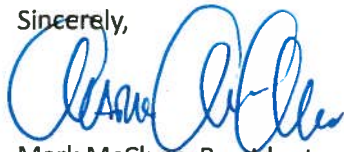
- Currently there are four existing quarries within a 5 mile radius; these quarries are currently operating at roughly half their capacity. A better plan; and a plan that would have less impact to the community and surrounding area would be to expand the existing quarries. This would also be consistent with the Master Plan – Southwestern/Highway 115 Comprehensive Plan.
- Wildlife, wildlife habitats, wildlife migratory paths and biodiversity will be impacted. An objective environmental study needs to be completed, rather than take the word of the applicant, that there are no endangered species located on the land or nearby lands. The proposed quarry site is likely in violation of the federal and State Endangered Species Act. The Mexican Spotted Owl is state listed in the Southwestern/Highway 115 Corridor.
- Moving dirt and extracting rock from the ground alters the flow of water runoff. The abutting neighborhoods depend strictly on well water supplies for all their water needs. There is potential for well contamination and/or damage, or complete loss from nearby blasting, contamination from blowing dust, and water runoff.

Quarrying requires heavy equipment, blasting, drilling, earthmoving, all of which create noise and dust, and, would certainly diminish the quality of life and well-being of the adjacent landowners and surrounding area. Southwestern/Highway 115 Corridor's unparalleled natural beauty will be compromised and the landscape densely populated with quarries and their side effects. The 115 Southwestern Highway area is currently taxed by the activities and traffic associated with Fort Carson, Cheyenne Mountain State Park, RV Parks, and privately owned parks opened to the public, within the surrounding area.

Protection of the land, environment, and public health, safety, and wellbeing is consistent with our constitutional rights. The Highlands, in alliance with the "Highway 115 Citizen's Advisory Committee", the citizens and the fellow neighborhoods along the corridor, is strongly opposed to the proposed quarry development.

On behalf of the twenty three properties within the Highlands and its Board of Directors, I submit this protest to the potential granting of Permit 2016010 to Transmit Mix.

Sincerely,



Mark McClurg, President

Highlands of Turkey Canon Ranch Homeowners Association

15795 Phantom Canyon View

Colorado Springs, CO 80926



AME



March 17, 2016

Amy Eschberger
Environmental Protection Specialist
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2016

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING & SAFETY

Re: Notice of 112 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application Consideration Transit
Mix Concrete Co., Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry, File No. M-2016-010 (SHPO Project #69882)

Dear Ms. Eschberger:

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 11, 2016 (received by our office on March 16, 2016) regarding the above subject project.

A search of the Colorado Cultural Resource Inventory database indicated that no cultural resource inventories have taken place in the proposed project area and no historic properties have been recorded within the property area. However, our files contain incomplete information for this area, as most of Colorado has not been inventoried for cultural resources. As a result, there is the possibility that as yet unidentified cultural resources exist within the proposed project area.

Should human remains be discovered during the proposed project activities, the requirements under State law C.R.S. 24-80 (part 13) apply and must be followed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Todd McMahon, Staff Archaeologist at (303) 866-4607/todd.mcmahon@state.co.us or Amy Pallante, Intergovernmental Services Director at (303) 866-4678 amy.pallante@state.co.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Turner".

Steve Turner, AIA
State Historic Preservation Officer
ECN/TCM