

Department of Natural Resources 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

July 22, 2016

Jason Lockard Washington County 150 Ash Ave. Akron, CO 80720

Re: Reason to Believe a Violation Exists and Notice of Board Hearing Elrick Pit (Permit No. M-1997-015)

Dear Mr. Lockard:

On June 1, 2016, the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) conducted an inspection of the Elrick Pit (Permit No. M-1997-015) and nearby lands (please see the attached inspection report). During the inspection the Division observed an access road, constructed for the purpose of the operation, located outside of the approved permit boundary. Based on the findings of the inspection report, the Division believes this is in violation of:

• C.R.S. 34-32.5-116(4)(i), for failure to protect areas outside of the affected land from slides or damages occurring during the mining operation; and

Therefore, the Division has reason to believe a violation exists to the Colorado Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials, C.R.S. 34-32.5-101 <u>et seq.</u>, and has scheduled this matter to appear before the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

A Formal Board Hearing will be held during the August 24-25, 2016 Board meeting for consideration of these possible violations. The hearing will be held at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 318, Denver, Colorado, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on August 24th or as soon thereafter as the matter can be considered. At the hearing you will have the opportunity to present your defense.

This is an important legal proceeding and you must appear in person for this hearing. If you fail to appear, an Order and financial judgment may be entered against you. In addition, failure to appear at the hearing may result in legal consequences including, but not limited to, loss of party status and your ability to seek reconsideration from the Board or seek judicial appeal in district court.

If the Board finds a violation at this hearing, it may issue a Cease and Desist Order and/or assess a Civil Penalty in the amount of \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 for each day of violation pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-124(7). In addition, the Board may order the permit to be suspended, modified, or revoked, pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-124(6)(a). If you have evidence indicating the possible violations noted above do not exist or have been corrected, please provide it to the Division as soon as possible or bring it to the hearing.

All parties have an opportunity to review and comment on a draft of the Board's Order before it becomes final. If you wish to do so, you must provide the Board with a written request to review the draft Order prior to or at the time of your hearing, or you must inform the Board orally during the hearing that you request to review the draft Order. The Board's attorney must receive your comments on the draft Order within three calendar days of the date the draft Order is e-mailed, unless that deadline is extended by the Board's attorney. Submit all comments in



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writing, by e-mail or fax, to John J. Roberts, First Assistant Attorney General, Colorado Department of Law, (720) 508-6037 (fax), or John.Roberts@coag.gov.

Please note that the Division has requested and will be allowed to review and comment on the draft Board Order.

The Board's agenda may not be finalized until the week of the Board meeting. Therefore, we recommend you contact the Board Secretary, Johnie Abad, at (303) 866-3567 ext. 8136, or Johnie Abad@state.co.us on August 22, 2016 to confirm the specific date for the hearing.

If you have any questions about this letter or the hearing, please contact Elliott Russell at (303) 866-3567, ext. 8132, or Elliott.Russell@state.co.us.

Sincerely.

Enclosure:

cc:

Virginia Brannon **Division Director**

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7014 2120 0001 7871 1042

Return Receipt Requested

DRMS June 1, 2016 Inspection Report, signed July 22, 2016

Tony Waldron, DRMS Wally Erickson, DRMS

Elliott Russell, DRMS

Jeff Fugate, AGO for DRMS