

Response to Reclamation Permit Amendment Application Consideration

DATE: August 1, 2016
TO: Eric C. Scott, Environmental Protection Specialist
CC: Division 1 Office, District 2 Water Commissioner
FROM: Ioana Comaniciu, P.E.
RE: Morton Lakes, File No. M-2008-082
Operator: Ready Mixed Concrete Company, (303) 659-0630
Sec. 1, Twp. 1 North, Rng. 67 West, 6th P.M., Weld County

COMMENTS: The applicant has requested to amend their Morton Lakes DRMS Permit No. M2008-083 permitted boundary by adding the Holton Lakes DRMS Permit No. M2007-008 permitted boundary to the Morton Lakes site. Both sites are operated by Ready Mixed Concrete Company ("RMCC"). The combination of the two sites will not result in any increase in permitted acreage beyond the existing permitted boundary of the two sites. The combined Morton-Holton Lakes Sand and Gravel Pits will total 312 acres and will be mined in seven stages. Prior to mining soil-bentonite slurry walls will be constructed around the perimeter of each of these stage. In addition the proposed amendment includes a change in the sequence of the mining stages and a change in the location of the primary pit access to Highway 52 from Holton to Morton. The Morton-Holton site will be reclaimed for two principal post-mining land uses, wildlife habitat and development water storage. It is estimated that approximately 7,500 acre-feet of water storage can be developed at the combined site. The proposed operation will continue to consume ground water through evaporation, dust control, reclamation, water removed with the mined product, processing, dewatering, and concrete batching. In accordance with Section 37-90-137(2) and (11), C.R.S., on June 8, 2016 the applicant obtained a combined substitute water supply plan ("SWSP") for the Morton and Holton Lakes that cover stages 1, 2 and 7. The SWSP is currently valid through December 31, 2017. In addition RMCC obtain well permit nos. 80045-F and 80046-F for the Morton Lakes and Holton Lakes respectively, also for stages 1, 2 and 7. The Applicant will be required to obtain new well permits if additional acreage will be exposed beyond what is allowed by well permit nos. 80045-F and 80046-F. So long as the amended Morton-Holton Lakes site is operated in accordance with an approved SWSP or approved plan for augmentation, this office has no objection to the requested amedment.