




COLORADO
Division of Water Resources
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 821
Denver, CO 80203

Response to Reclamation Permit Conversion Application Consideration

DATE: April 26, 2017
TO: Elliott R. Russell, Environmental Protection Specialist (Elliott.Russell@state.co.us)
CC: Division 1 Office, District 23 Water Commissioner
FROM: Sarah Brucker, P.E. 
RE: Amazonites, File No. M-2014-042
Applicant/Operator: Russell L. Painter, (719) 684-4066
Section 11, Twp 12 South, Rng 71 West, 6th P.M., Teller County

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of ground water must not occur during or after mining operations.
- ☒ If water will be used for any purpose at this site, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source, or the water was diverted in priority under a water right decreed for such industrial use.
- ☒ The proposed operation may have potential impact on existing water rights near the project location. The proposed project shall not alter or impact the historic operation of existing water rights.

COMMENTS: The subject application seeks to convert M-2014-042 from a 110(1) to a 110(2) Limited Impact Hard Rock/Metal Mining Reclamation Permit. The application will also increase the permitted area from approximately 5 acres to 9.9 acres.

The Amazonites (consisting of Amazonite #I-VIII) is a surface mining operation on National Forest land located approximately 6 miles from Lake George. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are amazonite, smoky quartz, and other minerals. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its original condition (land use of forestry) upon completion of this mining operation.

No water will be needed during the mining operation. A trailer will be located on site with toilet facilities.

The proposed mining site will be located approximately 150 feet northeast of Crystal Creek. According to the submittal, the proposed operation is not expected to have any impact on water quality or to have any discharge to the creek.

If stormwater runoff is intercepted by this operation and is not diverted or captured in priority, it must be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.

The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

