

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

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 18 2017**

**DIVISION OF RECLAMATION  
MINING AND SAFETY**

Mr. Cunningham:

I am writing to register a FORMAL COMPLAINT. I am a neighbor to the Katuska Pit operated by High Speed Mining off Platte Drive in Fairplay CO (M1991037). I am deeply concerned with the violations of both ponds and permit area. My family literally lives downstream from this operation and are directly impacted by this. I am aware of the deforestation of over 2 acres of land just northwest of our home on Tristan Loop. We also discovered that High Speed Mining, LLC has a history of "bending and breaking the rules" as evidenced in DRMS records. The operator has been found guilty on several occasions. The most recent violation, operating out of their permitted area should not be rewarded with an expansion of said area. I am writing to ask that this permit NOT be converted to Hard Rock, that their operations NOT be allowed to expand, and that High Speed Mining NOT be granted operating hours 7 days a week, sunrise to sunset.

Non-compliance with their current permit shows lack of respect for the regulations put in place to protect our environment. High Speed Mining has displayed lack of concern for the neighbors' property rights. I understand that they have a right to conduct business, however, they do not have a right to infringe upon the enjoyment of MY property.

I strongly oppose any expansion of the Katuska Pit area and/or any change of zoning of the Residential area this company seeks. We live in Fairplay to enjoy the amazing natural beauty and wildlife. Increasing the Katuska Pit would have severe negative impact on not only my family but also on tourism and recreation which provides a livelihood for many in the South Park region. Any additional sediment in the Platte River could completely destroy the trout fishing for which Fairplay is famous.

Our family has also noticed a distinct decline in the number of wildlife we have observed since the mine has increased its activities. We no longer have elk, deer, nor foxes crossing the meadow near our home.

We respectfully request that DRMS not make any decisions regarding expanding the Katuska/High Speed Mining permit until the County resolves the zoning infractions. High Speed Mining has already infringed upon 2.5 acres outside of their permitted 8. Allowing this company a 500% increase is not a fine but a reward for illegal practices. I fear that these changes would further embolden the flagrant disregard for the law. Further we request that DRMS deny the permit change of High Speed Mining to that of a hard rock mining reclamation permit. High Speed Mining should be made to honor the terms and conditions of their CURRENT permit and pay any fines for violating them.

Sincerely,

M. Jamie Morrow