



**COLORADO**

**Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

August 28, 2017

Robert Thvedt  
PO Box 774003  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Tony A. Connell  
2673 Jacob Circle, Unit 100  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80487

**RE: Bear Creek S&G Pit, Permit No. M1986040, Response to Complaint Letter, Reference No. CT- 01.**

Dear Mr. Thevdt and Connell,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) received via email a copy of your complaint letter to Routt County Commissioners and Planning Department regarding activities at the Bear Creek S&G Pit.

Division records indicate that a Succession of Operator (SO) occurred in June of 2015. A subsequent inspection noted that the new operator was cleaning materials up and preparing to do other work on site. Division staff noted a reoccurring weed problem and required a technical revision to add in a weed management plan. Along with the revision, the Division almost doubled the required financial warranty for reclamation. At this point the permit and current activities appear to meet the requirements of our Act and Rules.

A side note to the attached letter in the e-mail references damage waiver agreements. The Division file indicates we requested updated agreements prior to approval of the transfer to the new owners in 2015. While the approval was later issued, the actual agreements appear to be missing or misplaced within our file. Division staff will follow up with the permittee. Please note that this is an administrative issue and does not impact the approval of the SO of 2015.

A careful review of the letter indicates numerous questions in regard to the Routt County Special or Conditional Use Permit. Issues regarding hours of operation, traffic, dust, and tax records for actual production are not within the jurisdictional review of the Division. Therefore, the Division advises that the proper forum for your issues are with the County.



If you have any questions please contact me at (303) 866-3567, ext. 8185 or by email at [russ.means@state.co.us](mailto:russ.means@state.co.us). Please feel free to visit our web site at: <http://mining.state.co.us/Pages/Home.aspx> for access to the full Act and Rules governing extraction of metals, non-metals, and construction materials in the State of Colorado.

Sincerely,



G. Russell Means  
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

Cc: Virginia Brannon, DRMS Division Director  
Tony Waldron, DRMS Minerals Program Director  
Amy Yeldell, DRMS Grand Junction Field Office  
Gregory Brown, Bear Creek Sand and Gravel (permittee)  
Routt County Planning Commission

