



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Ebert - DNR, Jared <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

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## Knox Gravel Pit reclamation plan

1 message

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**Ruth Wallick** <ncstainedglass@gmail.com>

Tue, Nov 7, 2017 at 3:11 PM

To: jared.ebert@state.co.us

Hello.

Attached is a letter expressing my concerns about Loveland Ready Mix's reclamation plan for the proposed Knox pit in Laporte CO.

Thank you

Ruth Wallick



**Bureau of Mining and Reclamation , with Rose's edits.docx**

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## Knox Gravel Pit reclamation plan

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**Ebert - DNR, Jared** <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Wed, Nov 8, 2017 at 2:03 PM

To: Ruth Wallick <ncstainedglass@gmail.com>

Hello Mrs. Wallick, in order to be considered a party to the application process for the Knox Pit, M-2017-036, in accordance with Rule 1.7.1(2)(a) you must provide your phone number.

Thank you,

Jared

[Quoted text hidden]

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Jared Ebert

Environmental Protection Specialist III



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

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[jared.ebert@state.co.us](mailto:jared.ebert@state.co.us) | [mining.state.co.us](http://mining.state.co.us)

Bureau of Mining and Reclamation

I wish to express my concerns about Loveland Ready Mix's reclamation plan for their proposed gravel pit, Larimer County Plan # 17-ZONE2113 in Laporte, CO. They describe this site as ½ mile west of Taft Hill road, which it is, but they do not mention that it is also adjacent, as in right across the street, from a large residential neighborhood. Their proposed reclamation plan, after mining down to bedrock, is to return the finings and some topsoil and plant grass to create pasture. I am not certain that the reclaimed soil conditions will be sufficient to ensure adequate root growth and grass production to sustain moderate to high quality pasture. Depending on the slope of the sides in the mined out gravel pit, I'm not sure if cattle could safely graze down there anyway.

They said they would line the pit with clay to keep out ground water. We are far enough away from the Poudre River that our soil is clay-rich, not loam, and does not drain well. Our ground water is high during the summer irrigation season. In my 40 years of living near the proposed site, I have observed several locations around the area that have standing water for weeks or months at a time. I am afraid this proposed pit would have standing, stagnant water all summer and be a foul smelling breeding ground for disease carrying mosquitoes.

I think this location is too close to the neighborhood to be mined. However, if it is mined, it is better for the surrounding community if the mined area is reduced substantially in size and located as far from homes as possible. The area should be reclaimed to conditions that align with neighborhood values, and look as natural as possible. There should be naturally shaped ponds or smaller lakes surrounded by unmined pasture or native grassland. A good example is River Bend Ponds in south Ft. Collins.

Over 2600 people have signed the petition against this proposed gravel pit. They are rightfully concerned about the dangers of the truck traffic, pollution, dust and noise. We ask that Loveland Ready Mix submit a new reclamation plan that is not just based on the cheapest thing they can do. If the decision is made to go forward with this project, and the residents of Laporte are asked to put up with ten plus years of noise, dust, traffic and torment, we at least deserve a reclamation plan that would leave a beautiful area and not just a stagnant hole in the ground.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Ruth Wallick

3000 N Overland Trail

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Laporte, CO 80535