



COLORADO

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203

November 24, 2017

Andre LaRoche
Transit Mix Concrete Co.
444 E. Costilla St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

**RE: Objections and Comments Received to a 112c Reclamation Permit Application,
Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry, File No. M-2017-049**

Mr. LaRoche:

The Division has received additional timely objections and comments to the Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry application, File No. M-2017-049. The objections and comments were received within the public comment period which began when the application was filed for review on November 9, 2017, and will close on December 21, 2017. The objections and comments received since the last notice was sent on November 17, 2017 are listed in bold text.

Timely objections received:

- 1) November 16, 2017 - Objection received from Monica Loftis, dated November 14, 2017.
- 2) November 21, 2017 – Objection received from Donald Loftis, dated November 15, 2017.

Timely letters of support received:

- 1) November 14, 2017 - Letter of support received from Mike and Janet Robinson, dated November 14, 2017.
- 2) November 15, 2017 - Letter of support received from Norma Saint James, not dated.
- 3) November 15, 2017 - Letter of support received from Michael R. McCorkle, not dated.
- 4) November 15, 2017 - Letter of support received from Brad Lehman, not dated.
- 5) November 15, 2017 - Letter of support received from Jerry Schmitz, not dated.
- 6) November 16, 2017 - Letter of support received from Shannon Michael Hurst, not dated.
- 7) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Christopher R. Anderson, dated November 17, 2017.

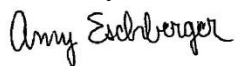


- 8) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Lois Atwell, not dated.
- 9) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Cindy Moone, not dated.
- 10) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from unknown (signature is illegible), not dated.
- 11) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Keith Robertson, not dated.
- 12) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Valerie Rowland, not dated.
- 13) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Steve Sams, not dated.
- 14) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Carl W. Smith, not dated.
- 15) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Randall Stoddard, not dated.
- 16) November 21, 2017 – Letter of support received from Derek Walden, not dated.

Copies of the objection and comments are enclosed for your records. Please inform the Division of how the Applicant intends to address the jurisdictional issues raised by the objectors. This information can be submitted during the adequacy review process.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129, or by email at amy.eschberger@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Amy Eschberger
Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures: New objection and comment letters as listed above (11 total)

EC: Paul Kos, Norwest Corporation at: pkos@norwestcorp.com
Wally Erickson, DRMS at: wally.erickson@state.co.us



LETTER OF OBJECTION M2017-049

Objection

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

November 15th 2017

M. 2017.049

Ms Amy Eschberger

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Dear Ms. Eschberger :

I am writing this letter to express my strong opposition to the new application (M2017-049) submitted by Transit Mix regarding the Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry. I am not as concerned as others could be about the loss of home values or water problems, what I am most concerned about is the risk that we as commuters are exposed daily.

Highway 115 is not prepared for the traffic that already holds. We only have one traffic lane each way and some passing lanes but no median or guardrail between the two directions of the highway (just a painted line). We have had several serious and fatal accidents in the area. The last one we had was about a month ago when one of these quarry trucks lost control and crossed to the other side of the road killing someone. This happened in good road conditions.

In icy conditions since there is only one lane, when a careful driver, as me, wants to go at the right speed for the road condition, not only these trucks but other vehicles tailgate me trying to force me to speed up. If someone hits an icy patch the vehicle will slide into incoming traffic right away since there is no containment. I have seen this happening.

More of these big trucks on the road on a daily base will only increase the problems we have already. If I could use another route to go to work I would, mostly when it is icy.

The State is worried about expanding I-25 but they should also be worried about expanding Hwy 115 to make it safer, and this should be done before allowing 100 or more trucks per day on the road. I am not trying to be disrespectful but I have seen better highways than this one in third world countries.

Maybe since Transit Mix is so desperate to get its application approved, it could help the State to pay for some of the expenses to expand this highway.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Donald Loftis

162 N Kathy L Colorado Springs 80926

Phone : 719-325-9368

e-mail : boring108@yahoo.com

AMC

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

To Whom It May Concern:

M-2017-049

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Christopher R. Anderson 11/17/2017

AME

To Whom It May Concern:

M 2017 049

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

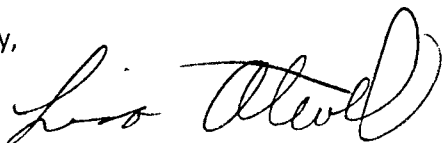
In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,



1/17/17

WI-2017-049

To Whom It May Concern:

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot be completed when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Cindy Moore

AME

To Whom It May Concern:

M 2017049

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

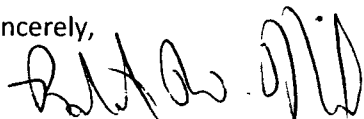
In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,



AME

To Whom It May Concern:

M-2017-049

RECEIVED
NOV 21 2017
DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

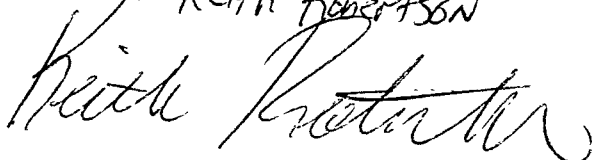
In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Keith Robertson


AME

To Whom It May Concern:

M207049 RECEIVED
NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

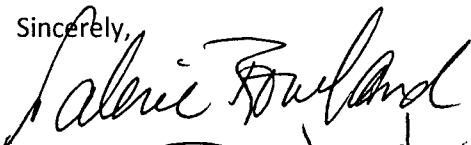
In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,


Valerie Rowland

AME

M 2017049

To Whom It May Concern:

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2011

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely, Steve Sams


Our new Hitch Rack Ranch application has now been submitted, and the period of public comment concerning the proposed quarry has started. During this time, there will be many letters of opposition submitted. It is our goal to show the community that there is in reality an overwhelming support for this project. In order to do that, we ask that you please review the attached form letter, and if you are in agreement, sign it, and return it in the provided envelope directly to DRMS at your earliest possible convenience. The letter can also be sent to Kay Sanchez at the main office, and those letters will be hand carried to the DRMS office. You are by no means obligated to send this letter, and we would even prefer if you wrote your own or adjusted the attached to reflect your personal views. Please have family members and acquaintances sign or write a separate letter. The public comment period will end on December 21st at 4 pm, and all letters have to be submitted no later than that.

AME

To Whom It May Concern:

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

M. 2017-049

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Carl W Smith

27 YEARS EMPLOYED BY TRANSIT MIX

NAME

To Whom It May Concern:

M2017049

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2017

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during and after mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,



RANDALL STODDARD

AME

To Whom It May Concern:

M-2017-049

NOV 21 2017
DIVISION OF RECLAMATION
MINING AND SAFETY

As a member of the Transit Mix family, I write this letter in support of Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County.

Transit Mix has long been an integral part of the El Paso County community and economy. Since 1945 we have proudly provided much of the concrete that built the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, NORAD, and other iconic structures, as well as countless businesses and private homes. We have been operating locally under the same ownership for more than 60 years. We take pride in being a part of the Colorado Springs and El Paso County communities, and continue to support local causes through monetary or personal time donations.

Transit Mix needs a new quarry in El Paso County. As the years of operation at Pikeview Quarry have increased, so has the number of homes in its vicinity. By looking for a new quarry location, we are making a business decision for the overall good of the community to make our city even more beautiful. The reclamation process cannot start when there is no other rock source available to us.

In Hitch Rack Ranch we have found the most ideal location for this endeavor. It is more secluded than any other viable site within economical range of Colorado Springs, with only 13 residences within one mile of its permit boundary. In comparison, there are 1500 residences within one mile of the Pikeview Quarry. In addition, unlike Pikeview, the quarry would only be minimally visible from any public road. The quarry would be a very small portion of a very large piece of private property, disturbing only 239 acres of the 1,432 acres total.

I understand that the quarry has been designed to minimize impacts to water resources and wildlife. The existing water resources in the Little Turkey Creek drainage are controlled by the creek, and these creek flows will continue during ~~and after~~ mining. By staying south of Little Turkey Creek, wildlife corridors are maintained throughout the operation of the quarry, and the reclamation plan has been specifically designed to create wildlife habitat.

A permit for Hitch Rack Ranch would not only secure the future of Transit Mix as a business, but also help secure my future and the futures of the over 200 employees that are part of our team. Many of us have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has afforded me with both the ability of taking care of my family's basic needs, and also with the small luxuries in life.

For these reasons among others, I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, not only for Colorado Springs, not only for Transit Mix as a whole, but for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Derek Walden