

## **Hitch Rack Ranch Permit Application**

1 message

**Andre Laroche** <Andre\_Laroche@transitmix.com>
To: "amy.eschberger@state.co.us" <amy.eschberger@state.co.us>

Thu, Dec 21, 2017 at 3:00 PM

Dear Ms. Eschberger:

Attached please find my letter of support for the Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry.

Thank you,

Andre Laroche | Permit Specialist

Transit Mix Concrete Co. | 719-491-0288 cell

**2017-12-21-Andre-Laroche-Letter-of-Support-for-HRR-Quarry.pdf** 540K

December 21, 2017

Amy Eschberger, Environmental Protection Specialist State of Colorado, Department of Natural Resources Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support for the Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry

Dear Ms. Eschberger:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for Transit Mix's application to open a quarry on the privately owned Hitch Rack Ranch in southwestern El Paso County. I offer this support as a long-time employee of Transit Mix Concrete Co.

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 Colorado Springs 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 my colleagues at Transit Mix have been members of the Colorado Springs, Pueblo and other

Amy Eschberger December 21, 2017 Page Two

surrounding communities for many years. Transit Mix Concrete Company's stability has provided me with the ability to support myself and my family. It is a good company, with strong values, and I am proud to be affiliated with Transit Mix.

I urge the Mined Land Reclamation Board to please approve Transit Mix's application, for Colorado Springs, for Transit Mix as a whole, and for me and my family.

Sincerely,

Andre Laroche, Permit Specialist

Transit Mix Concrete Co.

444 E. Costilla Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

719-227-2048 office

719-491-0288 cell