




COLORADO

Division of Water Resources

Department of Natural Resources

Response to Reclamation Permit Release Request Consideration

DATE: July 9, 2019
TO: Amy Eschberger, Environmental Protection Specialist
FROM: Sarah Brucker, P.E. 
RE: Three Bells Pit, Permit No. M-1979-191 - SL01
Applicant/Operator: Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.
Phone Number: (970) 227-4041
Section 12, Twp 6 North, Rng 68 West, 6th P.M., Larimer County

COMMENTS: The applicant has submitted a request for full reclamation responsibility release for the Three Bells Pit, which consists of 370 permitted acres. The Three Bells Pit consists of two primary cells, known as the “Veldman” parcel to the southeast and the “DiTullio” parcel to the northwest. Mining operations have been completed at both parcels, and all dewatering has ceased.

The clay liner for the Veldman parcel was approved by the State Engineer’s Office in a letter dated March 6, 2015 (River Bluffs Lake, WDID 0303324). The clay liner for DiTullio Pond 3 was approved by the State Engineer’s Office in a letter dated January 4, 2018 (Three Bells DiTullio Property Pond 3, WDID 0303376), and the clay liner for DiTullio Pond 1 was approved by the State Engineer’s Office in a letter dated August 6, 2018 (Three Bells DiTullio Property Pond 1, WDID 0303396).

There has been no consumptive use of groundwater at the site since the pits have been lined; however lagged depletions from past mining and dewatering operations at the site continue to impact the river. Depletions are replaced under the Lafarge Middle Poudre Combined Substitute Water Supply Plan (Plan ID 3068), currently valid through December 31, 2019. Based on the most recently submitted accounting, lagged depletions from past operations at the site will continue to impact the river through May of 2025.

The request for full reclamation release for the Three Bells Pit should not be granted all lagged depletions resulting from past mining and dewatering operations at the site have been fully replaced. The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety and/or the applicant may contact the State Engineer’s Office with any questions.

