

Response to Consideration of 110c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: October 31, 2019

TO: Brock Bowles, Environmental Protection Specialist

CC: Keith Vander Horst, P.E., Chief of Water Supply - Inside Basins

FROM: Javier Vargas-Johnson

RE: Chris Aageson Pit #2 Addition, Permit No. M-2019-049

Applicant/Operator: Washington County

Phone Number: (970) 246-3347

SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 25, Twp 5 South, Rng 49 West, 6th P.M., Washington County Water Division 1, Water District 49, Northern High Plains Designated Basin, Arikaree Ground

Water Management District

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after mining operations.
- If water will be used for any purpose at this site, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source, or was diverted in priority under a water right decreed for such mining/industrial use.
- Any stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation that is not diverted or captured in priority must be released to the stream system within 72 hours.

COMMENTS: The subject application is for an addition to an active surface mining operation located approximately 6.1 miles southeast of Cope, Colorado. The addition seeks to permit 1.17 acres next to the currently permitted 9.9 acres at the Chris Aageson Pit #2 under permit no. M-2000-084. The primary commodity mined at the site is gravel. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its previous use of rangeland upon completion of mining.

Excavations will be to depths of approximately 10 to 20 feet and are not anticipated to intercept groundwater. The static water levels observed in wells constructed within 2 miles indicate that the static groundwater levels in the area are deeper than the anticipated excavation depths.

No water will be needed during the mining operation, and no water impoundments will be constructed.

If stormwater runoff is intercepted by this operation and is not diverted or captured in priority, it must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise, the operator must make replacements for evaporation.

Based on the above, this office has no concerns regarding the proposed mining operation. The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

