

Response to Notice of 110c to 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Conversion Application Consideration

To: Dustin M. Czapla, Environmental Protection Specialist From: Justina P. Mickelson, Physical Science Researcher/Scientist

Date: January 9, 2020

Re: Operator: George T. Weldon Construction, LLC; North River Gravel Pit

Extension; Permit No. M-1999-007

Sections 31 and 32, Twp 2 N, Rng 101 W, 6th P.M.; Rio Blanco County

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

The application is to convert the pit to a 112c Regular Construction Materials Permit. The proposal extends the permitted area by 8.76 acres, making the total permitted area of 18.75 acres. Per the application, all operations for the gravel pit will remain unchanged. The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of ground water must not occur during or after mining operations.

According to our records, there does not appear to be a production well permitted at the mining location. A valid well permit must be obtained for any exposure of ground water occurring during or after mining operations and for any ground water uses.

If water will be hauled to the site for mining operations and/or dust control, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source that allows such industrial use.

If storm water is not diverted or captured in priority, Colorado Water Law requires it to be released, or replacement for evaporation will be required of the impounder/operator/owner of the gravel pit. The State Engineer's current policy requires that all impounded water be released to the stream system within a maximum of 72 hours after impoundment. Unless captured in priority, impounded water may not be used for any purpose except as approved under a water supply plan or decreed plan for augmentation.

COMMENTS

This office has no objections to the Notice of 110c to 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Conversion Application Consideration so long as the site operates under a valid well permit for any ground water exposure or use.

The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

Cc: Division 6 Engineer

District 43 Water Commissioner

