




Response to Consideration of 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: August 27, 2020
TO: Brock F. Bowles, Environmental Protection Specialist
FROM: Sarah Brucker, P.E. 
RE: Nelson Pit, File No. M-2020-040
Applicant/Operator: Washington County Road & Bridge Dist. 3, (970) 383-2216
SE ¼ Section 18, Twp 5 South, Rng 55 West, 6th P.M., Washington County
Water Division 1, Water District 1

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; otherwise the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.
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COMMENTS: The subject application is for a surface mining operation on 52.7 acres located approximately 9 miles south of Last Chance, Colorado. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are gravel and sand for road building and maintenance. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its current use of rangeland upon completion of mining.

Mining is expected to occur in and along Vega Creek, which is a normally dry stream that only flows in response to precipitation events. Mining is anticipated to occur to a depth of approximately 15 feet and will be kept above the groundwater table. The removal of some material from Vega Creek will occur, but is not anticipated to affect or change the flow of the creek. Any stormwater that falls on this site will be allowed to naturally run towards Vega Creek. The application did not identify any use of water at the site.

Based on the available information, this office has no concerns regarding the proposed mining operation. The Division of Reclamation Mining & Safety and/or the applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

