



September 11, 2020

Division of Mining of Reclamation and Mining Safety  
Department of Natural Resources  
State of Colorado

**OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY  
ATTORNEY**

**RE:      Need for State Reclamation Permit, Conejos County Road and Bridge,  
            File No. M-2020-036**

**Nicolas Sarmiento**  
County Attorney

12989 County Rd. G.6  
P.O. Box 68  
Conejos, CO 81129  
719.376.5455  
719.376.2389 FAX

To whom it may concern,

Conejos County is respectfully petitioning the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board to reconsider the position that our project is a mining operation.

Specifically, Conejos County would like an opportunity to present more facts and perhaps clarify certain information that may have led to the initial determination. Some, if not most of the material (potato rock) used to initially create the reservoirs was actually hauled in to the subject property. Those reservoirs are no longer needed and the landowner would donate the material from those reservoirs for use by the County. If those reservoirs remain, that area of the land can not be beneficially used for any other purposes. In essence, the land would be burdened, which could not be alleviated by flattening the reservoirs because it would cause big mounds to be left on the property. Conejos County believes that it is entitled to obtain an exemption from the permit requirements to remove the material used to create these reservoirs.

Please let us know if we can appear via zoom given the distance we would have to travel to be at the Board meeting.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Nicolas Sarmiento, written in a cursive style.

Nicolas Sarmiento  
Conejos County Attorney