



#M2026041

1 message

Lynn Amstutz <lynnamstutz@hotmail.com>
To: "drms.temp@state.co.us" <drms.temp@state.co.us>

Sat, Sep 26, 2020 at 10:50 AM

September 26, 2020

Colorado Bureau of Reclamation
[1313 Sherman Street](#)
[Denver, CO 80203](#)

Re: #M2026041

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to seek Party status to testify about this application. I protest Peak Ranch Resource petition File #M2026041 which is currently in front of the Bureau of Reclamation.

I personally spent 13 years on the Summit County Open Space Advisory Committee and the following 5 years on the Continental Divide Land Trust Executive Board before CDLT merged with Colorado Open Lands. The main focus of those boards was/is the purchase and subsequent protection of Summit County's open spaces. The main directives were THE PROTECTION OF THE VIEW CORRIDORS and the MAINTENANCE OF THE COUNTY'S CHARACTER AND QUALITY OF LIFE. 55% of Summit County open spaces (9,626.55 acres) are in the Lower Blue River Valley, and they preserve 10 miles of scenic viewshed. The proposed pit would be in the middle of the preserved viewshed. According to the Lower Blue Planning document, the natural and undeveloped lands separate and buffer the impacts of development, and contribute to the rural mountain quality of the local landscape. A gravel pit would destroy the Open Spaces' protection.

The development of a gravel pit along with its inevitable disturbance of the view corridor on Colorado Highway 9 and the omnipresent heavy truck traffic and disturbance of the Blue River, air quality, and wildlife migration patterns, are antithetical to everything I have, as a Summit County and Lower Blue River Valley resident worked for decades to preserve. I live in Acorn Creek Ranch Estates, a close neighbor (within half a mile as the crow flies) to the proposed gravel pit. I strongly object to DRMS's potential approval for those previous and the additional following reasons:

1. The water quality of the Blue River will be impacted, no matter how careful the mitigation.
2. The site will divide elk and deer migration patterns which are used three seasons of the year.
3. The air quality will be affected enormously by the gravel trucks driving on Colorado Highway 9 between the proposed pit and the Peak One processing plant.
4. The effect of the proposed number of heavy trucks turning onto and off of Highway 9 will create a safety hazard for other traffic.
5. The thousands of acres of Federal land and Summit County Open Space on both sides of the proposed site and the Blue River will be forever affected by such a development.
6. The noise level will echo up and down the valley, disturbing the peace of the Valley.
7. The night lighting, if similar to the current Peak One processing plant will add considerable light pollution to the night sky, thus dimming and destroying Dark Sky vision.
8. The plant will clearly be hostile to the values of the Lower Blue River Master Plan.

I wish to be heard at the public hearing of the Colorado Mine Land Reclamation Board when the Board takes up this application. Please add me to your email distribution list notifying interested parties of the date, time, location and format for this meeting. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Mary Amstutz

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Number of people in household: 2

