



Opposition to Peak Resource Application

1 message

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To: drms.temp@state.co.us

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To the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. This letter is submitted by my wife and me in opposition to the Application of Peak Resource to construct and operate a Gravel Pit in Summit County along State Highway 9. We think a Gravel Pit would be a disaster for that rural part of Summit County

I am a native Coloradan, and in 1989 my wife, Carole, and I purchased property along the Heeney Road between Highway 9 and Heeney. A few years ago we transferred the property to our daughters, Heidi and Sage, but we continue to use and enjoy the property as if we were still owners.

While Silverthorne today is hardly recognizable from 30 plus years ago, and the traffic on Highway 9 has increased measurably, once the Everist Gravel Pit (now Peak Resource) is in our rear view mirror, we feel again how lucky we are to be driving in and to a part of Summit County that still has the open spaces which are ever more unique in the County given the past, planned and no doubt future development in the Keystone, Silverthorne, Dillon, Frisco, Breckenridge, and Copper Mountain areas.

Up until a couple years ago, every time we passed the Everist facility, we looked forward to the time it would presumably cease operations when the property's natural resources were exhausted. You can imagine our dismay when we learned that Peak Resource had acquired the Hillyard property from the widow of Gerry Hillyard (a childhood friend of mine), which has led to the permit application we strongly oppose.

Granting the permit would have a number of deleterious impacts on the quality of life in the Lower Blue River Valley, which the County has sought to protect through Open Space set asides, and which is also supported by Federal Wilderness and other areas on both sides of Highway 9. Air and water quality would certainly be negatively impacted by the proposed facility's operations, to say nothing of the potential safety and other issues caused by the estimated 230 daily loads of gravel hauled by large trucks. The Lower Blue's abundant fish and wildlife resources would hardly benefit from all of this!

We recognize that the Summit County is appropriately interested in attracting and fostering economic development opportunities. However, there have been and currently are a large number of those opportunities in Silverthorne, Dillon and their environs, and of course the rest of Summit. We respectfully suggest the Division should refrain from inflicting on the Lower Blue River Valley the very negative impacts of the proposed Peak Resource Pit application. A contrary result would create a very unfortunate precedent. We thank you for your consideration.

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