



FW: Application by Peak Ranch Resource (File No. M2020041)

1 message

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To: "drms.temp@state.co.us" <drms.temp@state.co.us>

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ADAM AND ANNE POE
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DENVER, COLORADO 80220
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October 5, 2020

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

1313 Sherman St.

Denver, CO 80203

RE: Application by Peak Ranch Resource (File No. M2020041)

via e-mail: drms.temp@state.co.us

To Whom it May Concern,

We are the owners of [1420 County Road 1351](#) in the Lower Blue Valley of Summit County. We are writing to seek Party status to testify about the above-mentioned application by Peak Materials to establish a gravel mining operation at the Peak Ranch Resource site in Summit County, Colorado. We are writing on behalf of ourselves and our two grown children who collectively have owned a home and property since 1997 in the Pebble Creek Ranch subdivision in Summit County

Our home is 1.6 miles west of State Highway 9 off Rock Road (CR 1351) which is in the middle of the six mile corridor within which Peak Material proposes to run 230 truck trips per day connecting the Peak Ranch Resource site and the existing processing plant at Maryland Creek. The disruption we and our neighbors at Pebble Creek Ranch will experience as a result of this project's truck traffic, noise, impacts to wildlife, impacts to recreation resources, and the overall environmental degradation in the Lower Blue Valley, establish our standing to participate in the DRMS's decision-making process.

A few of our specific objections to the project at this time are summarized below for your consideration. At the public hearing on this project we intend to provide testimony addressing the following:

1. The proposed project involves a proposed gravel pit approximately six miles to the north of Maryland Creek where the materials would be processed. These two elements of the project are definitely connected. The application lacks a comprehensive traffic and highway safety analysis of the intervening highway corridor. The application before DRMS includes a wildlife impact study which briefly mentions potential impacts to wildlife within the corridor between the Maryland Creek and Peak Ranch Resource site. However the application does not include a broader traffic and highway safety analysis. We believe this is a significant deficiency. In order to reach our home we are required to make a turn off SH 9, a two-lane highway, to head west up Rock Creek Road. When heading north on

SH 9 we routinely need to wait for on-coming traffic to clear before completing our turn. In the meantime, cars and trucks heading north on SH 9 use the highway shoulder to pass us because SH 9 does not have a turn lane at this location. This creates an extremely hazardous condition that will only be exacerbated by the 230 truck trips per day associated with the proposed gravel pit before you.

2. We also find it ironic that the Colorado Division of Parks and Recreation, a sister agency of the DRMS, has been an active participant in the Summit County Safe Passages planning effort which is looking at ways to reduce roadkill in the same highway corridor that will be used to haul 115 loaded trucks per day from the proposed gravel pit to Maryland Creek. We believe the Department of Natural Resources should be involved in a comprehensive analysis which takes into account these two proposals. The proposed gravel pit should not be considered in a vacuum without consideration of its direct, indirect and cumulative environmental impacts.
3. Finally, we feel the application is premature since a Summit County Conditional Use Permit for the proposed project at the Peak Ranch Resource site must be obtained for this project to go forward. However, the application before DRMS ignores the fact that there is no where for the mined material to go for processing. The Maryland Creek processing facility is not allowed under the terms of Resolution No. 2016-08 of the Lower Blue Planning Commission which specifically provides under "2. Permitted Uses and Activities, L." "No raw materials may be imported onto the site,". Resolution No. 2016-08 goes on to state that the permit shall expire September 1, 2026 unless extended, which we believe has not occurred. Until the material to be extracted at the project site has a place to be processed, consideration by DRMS is premature and should not go forward.

Again, we wish to be heard at the public hearing of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board when the Board takes up this application. Please add us to your email distribution list notifying interested parties of the date, time and location for this meeting.

Sincerely,

Adam and Anne Poe,

[90 Eudora Street](#)

[Denver, CO 80220](#)

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 **gravel pit.Maryland Creek Ranch CUP Reso pln16-062.pdf**
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