

## Opposition to Lower Blue gravel mining

1 message

**Norma Watkins** <normajeanwatkins@gmail.com> To: drms.temp@state.co.us Tue, Oct 6, 2020 at 2:47 PM

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman St. Denver, CO 80203

To who it may concern:

We have owned a second home in Sierra Bosque for 30 years, and in this day of environmental concerns, we are very concerned about Peak Materials proposal to begin gravel mining in the lower Blue.

The traffic has increased significantly on highway 9 in the last 30 years. However, we understand that due to growth in tourism and a thriving economy, this is expected. However, why would it even be considered to put a much heavier burden on this highway with 230 one-way gravel trips a day! It is already often a safety hazard when we try to enter or exit our subdivision, and apparently there is no room for a turn lane because of the Blue River. Safety is a big concern.

We enjoy the wildlife in our area, and this would surely also be affected with more deaths to wildlife. The Blue River is also a very popular fishing site and we also have concerns about the effect on the water quality. The River also brings a lot of fisherman and traffic the enjoy the beautiful Blue River's fishing.

We are on well water and that is also a concern regarding the quality and quantity of the water.

Highway 9 is a popular roadway for bicyclers. It already is dangerous and the truck traffic would further endanger the bicycle riders. It isn't worth one life to further endanger recreational riders. In our stressful lives, we need places to exercise and escape the demands of jobs and the cities.

I understand the need for building products as Summit County is booming! Growth is inevitable, but as a government agency, your responsibility is not just to satisfy the needs of big business, but to balance it with general population needs, including safety, environment, The noise pollution would change dramatically as most people live above the highway, and noise travels up. There has already been a dramatic change in traffic noise in the last 10 years, and adding truck traffic would be unconscionable . I'm sure that more research can be done to come up with an alternative plan.

This country along highway 9 is beautiful and serene and they think it will be back to normal in 15 years. It will never be the same and soon it will feel like an industrial city in the country.

We are now living in Texas and are unable to attend the public hearing, but are just as concerned as those who are able to attend, so please count me as a "no" vote for the project. Let's slow down and take our time coming up with a better plan.

Please add me to your email distribution list to notify me of updates of this case.

Thank you,

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