



Stop the Pit

1 message

Dale Montagne <dmontagne33@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 7, 2020 at 2:21 PM

To: drms.temp@state.co.us, John Fielder <john@johnfielder.com>

Emailed [to;drms.temp@state.co.us](mailto:drms.temp@state.co.us) john@johnfielder.com,

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

[1313 Sherman St.](#)

[Denver, CO 80203](#)

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

From Dale Montagne

[377 Elk Run Rd Silverthorne Co 80498 Lot 2](#) lost creek Ranch dmontagne33@gmail.com 970.513.9093
landline



Stop The Pit

I am a recognized **national artist, the closest well and property owner Located within 200'** of the proposed gravel pit. Over the past 18yrs I have created a fun visual sculpture park icon just across the highway from the proposed pit. Most developed societies consider art as a mark of higher civilization. I have numerous works across the county including the Justice Center, St Anthony's hospital, and the library, not to mention the pieces across the country. The point being the proposed pit and truck entry will considerably inhibit my ability to earn a living through escalating the noise at least 5 times, not to mention the grease and sludge generated by diesel trucks estimated to pass every 2 minutes. There is also the added dangers of cutting off major game migrations and creating life threats to animal and human life. Not unusual to see 150 elk crossing over to my side of the highway. The final element is you will destroy a major value in my property being the million dollar view now to become noisy and full of trucks, major cranes other equipment, as well as significant danger to my well. I purchased this property in 1997 for the pristine beauty.

Summit counties real economic base is tourism, worth billions a year. Special self serving interest mining companies are not a worthy sacrifice of our pristine wildernesses which are rapidly shrinking. What sort of a legacy to we leave to our children, and their children, and so on? As a politician and state board member I would not like to go down as sabotaging the future of generations. A hundred years ago the expansion west welcomed mining-often polluting our rivers, clear cut lumbering-erosion, any sort of agriculture all in the name of progress. THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE. The pristine natural beauty far outweighs special interests vrs billions in tourism related natural beauty!

Looking at a few facts. I am at the tip of the glacial moraine from the Ute Mountains. My entire uphill neighborhood have dug wells through shale bedrock in the watershed mountain network. The water table is as close as 50-60 Ft. from the surface along Highway 9 on my side of the road as well as the proposed pit side. I can attest that the proposed pit property is honeycombed with voids filled with peat. Ms. Hillard at one point had to hire trucks with hundreds/thousands of gallons of water pumped underground to put out peat fires. These underground channels will become pollution channels to the Blue River. What is the destruction of the Blue River Eco system worth? What happens to the huge uphill water shed with established underground water flow when a huge slice of it is cut and intrudes into the bedrock more than 60 Ft. below? **It will create a siphon effect.** The elevation at the top of Elk Run is 8,652 and at the proposed pit site is 8,227. Water runs downhill. My well now produces 2 gal. per. Is in danger of going dry as well as many of my neighbors. The obvious affect is devaluing major portions of million dollar properties uphill.

There is no wilderness to replace what we already have in the beautiful Blue River Valley.

Dale Montagne