

10/7/2020

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

Re Application Peak Ranch Resource (File No. M2020041)

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to seek a voice in the objection to Peak Materials desire to open a gravel pit on their recently purchased 80 acre parcel (formerly known as the Hillyard Property) located approximately 12 miles N of Silverthorne on Hwy 9 across from Ute Pass Road.

My name is Bradley Heinrich and 11 years ago I fortunate enough to purchase a 30 acre parcel, located at 35055 Hwy 9. Which I refer to as my "Slice of Heaven". However, I need to let you know how devastating the possibility of having a gravel pit within 1/10 of a mile north of my dream paradise would be.

**Safety** - as you may know, the stretch of Hwy 9 that allows vehicles to pass one another starts at mile marker 113, which is approx. 1/8 of a mile south of my property entrance. At least 33% of the time, when we leave our property to enter Hwy 9 (south bound towards Silverthorne), there is a north bound vehicle attempting to pass (traveling much faster than the allowable speed limit) in the south bound lane and we are forced to drive on the shoulder to avoid a head on collision. The thought of an additional 115 (Peak's estimate) north bound gravel trucks slowing down to enter the gravel pit, coupled with the already extremely high volume of traffic creates a horrific safety issue. I've personally witnessed over 100 near head on collisions. Whereas, the shoulder and or ditch must be used to avoid serious injury if not death. In addition, the Hwy is heavily traveled with biking and that creates a whole another safety issue.

**Health** – from a health standpoint, specifically dust, my wife has some breathing difficulties and many allergies. Thus, this mining of aggregate would more than likely force us to have to sell our "Slice of Heaven".

**Pollution** – Air, noise, etc. As you know the Lower Blue River (Gore Range and the Williams Fork Range) are one of Colorado's premier picturesque mountain ranges and given the fact that Peak Materials have some many other options, why wouldn't this Lower Blue area be preserved?

**Water Contamination** – Obviously, it's well known and documented mining in close proximity to a river creates environmental issues. How is it even possible for a permit to even be applied for when any water including wetlands are within a ½ mile of such?

**Property Values** – It's hard to quantify what percentage of value the properties would decrease, but I'm certain it would be in the 25% range. And I as well as many of my neighbors used the majority of our savings to purchase our dream home to live here.

In closing, I hope the above for mentioned points of interest are more than enough to distinguish any possibility of the thought of permitting a gravel pit in this area we all call paradise.

I certainly wish to be heard when the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board meets to discuss this (Peaks Mining) application. Please notify me of such.

Respectfully,

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2 people in household