



Opposition to Application by Peak Ranch Resource (File No. M2020041)

1 message

Christine Donlon <christinekaydonlon@gmail.com>
To: drms.temp@state.co.us

Thu, Oct 8, 2020 at 12:38 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed plan to establish a gravel mine at the Peak Ranch site and to seek party status to maintain my right to testify regarding the application. I would like to be added to your email distribution list so I can be notified of the hearing details.

My family property is in close proximity to the Peak Ranch and I oppose the mining operation as I am worried that it will impact both our agricultural activities and our quality of life. As a member of Pass Creek Properties LLC, we own and run haying and horse boarding operations on Pass Creek Ranch. We also own a family home on the Blue River just down the road from Peak Ranch.

My primary grievance is the potential impact of the mining on our ability to access our legal water rights from the Blue River via the Green Mountain Canal which runs close to the proposed Peak Ranch gravel pit. I am worried that the depth of the pit will change the water levels and flow of water in the Green Mountain Canal which is used for irrigation on our agricultural and personal recreational property. Without appropriate water flow, our hay growing operation would be impacted and by extension our ability to provide adequate food for the animals that currently live there. This would cause economic hardship for my family's ranch operation.

Additionally, I am concerned about the levels of dust and noise caused by the heavy machinery and trucks involved in a mining operation. We have observed the traffic over the years at Maryland Creek mine and have heard the banging, grinding, screeching and trucks downshifting and applying their brakes. Having a large mine so close to our family home would impact the peace and tranquility that we sought when we selected this beautiful and natural place decades ago. We have worked hard to preserve the water quality, wildlife habitats and natural surroundings on our land while still maintaining a working agricultural operation. The dust and noise from the Peak Ranch mine could potentially interrupt the natural elk migratory path nearby as well as the habitats of many other wild creatures that have made our ranch their home. This summer we have unfortunately experienced the impacts of wildfire smoke on our quality of life. It has made us acutely aware of the hardships that could be inflicted on us by constant fine dust in the air both from the gravel pit and increased truck traffic.

Please keep me informed of the hearing scheduling as I welcome the chance to provide more input regarding my opposition to the proposed mine. My contact information can be found below.

Thank you,
Christine Donlon
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