

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

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

To whom it may concern,

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 site designated as Peak Ranch Resource.

We are specifically aggrieved by this proposed project for the following reasons:

Although we realize that a diversified industrial base is necessary to the economic health of the county, the planning board has designated the area north of the existing gravel site on CO 9 as a rural area and stipulated that materials would not be trucked into the existing plant. This is an agreement made with citizens and should not be subject to "bait and switch" tactics. We should be able to count on agreements made by the county with industry to protect us in the future as well as at the time of the making.

This industrial type operation would destroy the rural nature of communities along the CO 9 north of the existing plant.

Tourism is also an important part of our county's economy. The route is heavily used by tourists enjoying our beautiful countryside, and this possibility would be ruined by having to dodge flying gravel from speeding trucks, an all-to-common occurrence where trucks emerge from the existing plant. It would also destroy the environment of the river, an outstanding trout fishing location that attracts tourists to our county.

We experienced heavy truck traffic on CO 9 this summer when I 70 was closed for several days. It proved to be extremely dangerous to people and animals. Bicyclists on the road were threatened by speeding trucks. But most important, to make left turns from CO 9 north into property along the route or onto Blue Ridge Road with heavy trucks coming down the hill behind (sometimes attempting to pass at the intersection) was nearly deadly.

Moose, elk, and deer, which are an important part of our ecosystem, attempting to cross the road to the river are endangered by heavy trucks unable to stop in a short distance.

We have children in the neighborhood who attend school. When trucks approach the bus stop while children are boarding, it creates a very dangerous situation.

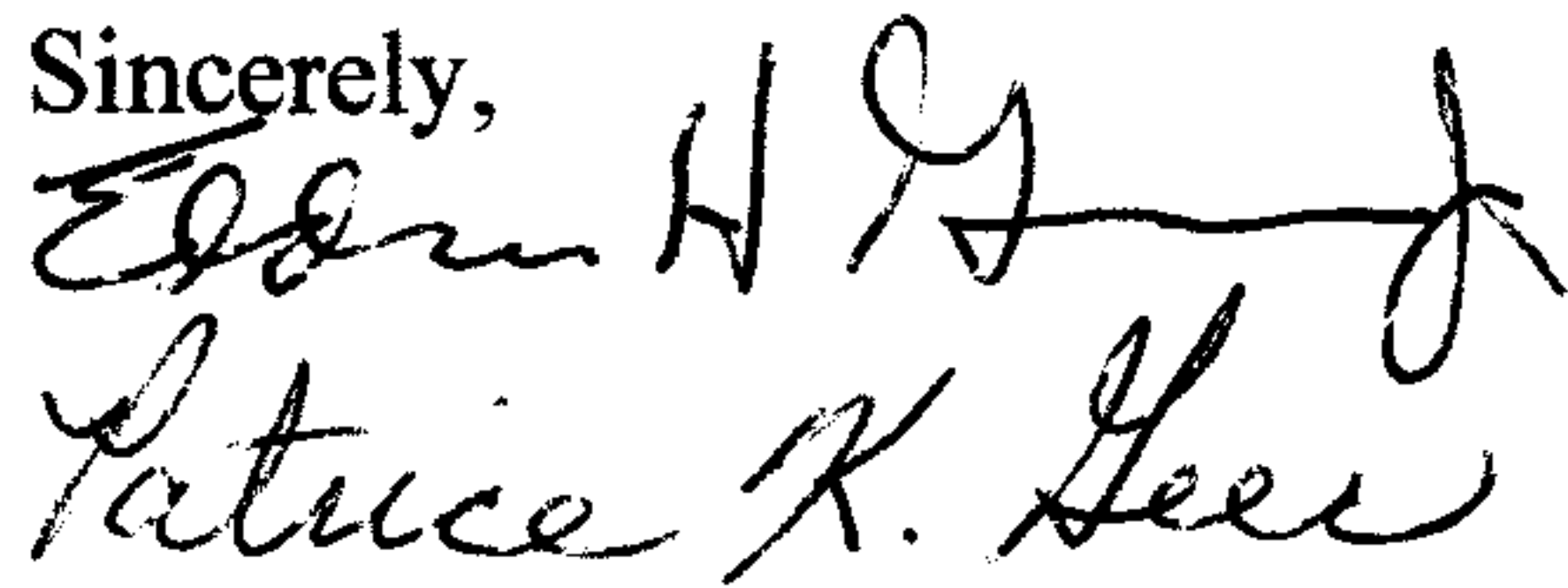
There are numerous hiking trails in the vicinity of the proposed project. The view from and quiet use of these trails, again an important part of both the county lifestyle and its attraction for tourists, would be altered in an extremely negative way, discouraging such use of the surrounding National Forest area.

In addition, our water in the area is very delicate. We do not have city water. Wells would be depleted by water use for this commercial operation downstream from existing subdivisions and farms.

Although the company has already purchased the property they wish to use for this industrial purpose, that purchase was made after the area was designated rural. They purchased it at their own peril deciding that they could push through a change in zoning without the approval of the community. We count on our representatives to protect our rights to quiet use of our property, which includes maintaining the rural nature of the area and safety of travel on CO 9 for traffic and safe travel across CO9 for animals migrating or seeking water.

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 me to your email distribution list notifying interested parties of the date, time and location for this meeting.

Sincerely,

The block contains two handwritten signatures. The first signature is "Elden H. Geer, Jr." and the second is "Patrice K. Geer". Both are written in cursive ink.

Elden H. Geer, Jr. and Patrice Keough Geer

816 Blue Ridge Road
Silverthorne, CO 80498
303-618-7668
ehgeer@aol.com

Number of people in your household: 2