

Response to Reclamation Permit Release Request Consideration

DATE:	February 9, 2021
TO:	Peter S. Hays, Environmental Protection Specialist
FROM:	Sarah Brucker, P.E.
RE:	Iverson Pit, Permit No. M-2011-001, SL-2 Applicant/Operator: Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. Phone Number: (970) 227-4041 Section 34, Twp 6 North, Rng 66 West, 6th P.M., Weld County

COMMENTS: The applicant has submitted a request for full/final release of the entire permitted area for the Iverson Pit. The 28.0 acres sought to be released consist of an unlined groundwater pond created as a result of sand and gravel mining at the site.

At this time, the exposed groundwater pond at the Iverson Pit site is not included in any valid substitute water supply plan or decreed augmentation plan. As such, the site cannot be found to be in hydrologic balance.

The Operator has not demonstrated that reclamation has been achieved so that existing and reasonably potential future uses of groundwater are protected as required by Rule 3.1.7(8) of the Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials.

The request for full reclamation release for the Iverson Pit should not be granted until either the existing groundwater pond is included in a decreed plan for augmentation or all exposed groundwater at the site has been completely backfilled.

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety and/or the applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions in this matter.