




Response to Reclamation Permit Amendment Application Consideration

DATE: February 25, 2021
TO: Eric C. Scott, Environmental Protection Specialist
FROM: Sarah Brucker, P.E. 
RE: North Star Pit, File No. M-2012-004 - AM02
Applicant/Operator: Superior Oilfield Services Co., Ltd.; (970) 352-4444
SW¼ Section 22, Twp 12 North, Rng 63 West, 6th P.M., Weld County
Water Division 1, Water District 1

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after mining operations.
 - ☒ Water will be used at the site for dust control and processing. The applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source.
 - ☒ Any stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation that is not diverted or captured in priority must be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.
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COMMENTS: The North Star Pit is a surface mining operation located approximately 6 miles west of Hereford, Colorado. The primary commodities mined at the site are sand and gravel. The applicant has requested an amendment to add 12.2 acres to be mined to the currently permitted 27.16 acres. The new total acreage in the permit area will be 39.36 acres. Upon completion of mining, the site is proposed to be reclaimed to pastureland.

The deposits to be mined are found at a depth of approximately 5-15 feet below ground surface, therefore, no groundwater is anticipated to be encountered at the site.

A water truck will be used at the site if needed for dust control on roadways or during processing. According to the previous amendment application, this water will be obtained from an industrial well leased by the operator located approximately 2 miles north in Wyoming. Estimated water requirements for dust control were given as 6,000 gallons per day.

According to the previous amendment application, stormwater will be contained onsite by berms. Stormwater is proposed to be released in a controlled manner so as to not damage offsite areas in accordance with the operation's stormwater management plan.

Based on the available information, this office has no concerns regarding the requested amendment. The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.

