

DATE: March 4, 2021

TO: Debra Gonzales
Division of Water Resources - DNR
1313 Sherman Street, Room 821
Denver, CO 80203

FROM: Becky & Steve Andrews
257 CR 119
Florence, CO 81226

RE: Penrose Pit- File No. M-1987-131
Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix Inc
Amendment Application

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MAR 09 2021
WATER RESOURCES
STATE ENGINEER
COLO

We are asking that Fremont Paving not mine within 1/4 mile of the north bank of the Arkansas river. This will protect the Arkansas River Riparian Corridor from further encroachment by the Penrose Pit.

In the letter sent to you from the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety dated 1/29/21 you have 20 days to make comments or objections to the mine plan from the date of the last public newspaper notice of the proposed amendment, which was 2/26/21. Your comments must be received by 3/18/21. This is an opportunity to protect the Arkansas River Riparian Corridor - restoration funded by the Fremont Conservation District, the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The City of Florence provided in-kind labor as part of the grant match. Other cooperating partners were the Arkansas Valley Audubon Society, Colorado State Forest Service and Fremont County Weed Management. Work was completed by Mile Hi Youth Corps, Fire Shield, the State Wildland Inmate Fire Team and Open Range Land. This project improved an active floodplain, restored the riparian forest and understory - which improved wildlife habitat, reduced stream bank erosion and reduced the pressure of noxious weed species on the water table. (Information from the Canon City Daily Record and the USDA project description (enclosed)).

From the Amendment Application:

6.4.7 Exhibit G Water Information

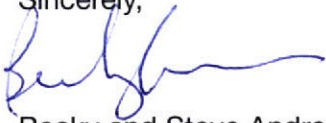
"This operation is not expected to directly affect surface water....."

6.4.9 Soils Information There are 7 pages of information on soils. Nearly all have the potential for rapid to very rapid runoff and high to very high potential for erosion. The farther the mining is from the Arkansas River, the less likely it is to impact the river. Looking west from our property to the mining scar along the Arkansas, we believe the first torrential rain is going to create a huge mess in the river. In this area, mining should not be allowed to continue that close to the banks of the Arkansas River.

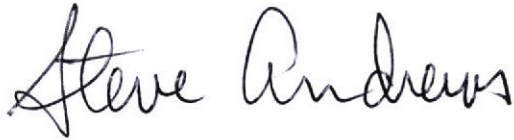
6.4.8 Exhibit H Wildlife Information

"Impacts on local wildlife are expected to be negligible." We have a bird list of 190 species seen on our property in Section 14. Mammals sightings include bear, beaver, bobcat & kits, white tail and mule deer, fox, coyotes, raccoons, skunks, and mink. If mining is allowed at the southern edge of the permitted area (nearest the Arkansas River) wildlife impacts will be substantial.

Sincerely,



Becky and Steve Andrews
257 CR 119
Florence, CO 81226
andrewss@earthlink.net
719-784-2053



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Enclosed:

USDA Rainbow Park and Portland plant Restoration project
Maps

Mail Comments to:

Tim Cazier, P. E.
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman St., Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203

Programs

Farm Bill

Financial Assistance

Conservation Innovation
Grants

Conservation Stewardship
Program

Environmental Quality
Incentives Program

Emergency Watershed
Protection Program

Easements

Landscape Initiatives

Landscape Planning

Rainbow Park and Portland Plant Riparian Restoration Project



**NAME OF
PROJECT:**
Rainbow Park and
Portland Plant
Riparian

Restoration Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Arkansas River Watershed in Rainbow Park area of Florence, Colorado

CONSERVATION DISTRICT(S): Fremont Conservation District

NATURAL RESOURCES CONCERNS

Degraded Plant Condition

Undesirable plant productivity and health.

Inadequate structure and composition.

Excessive plant pest pressure.

Water Quality Degradation - Excessive salts in ground water and surface water.

Soil Erosion - Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyance channels.

Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife - Habitat degradation.

MITIGATION ACTIVITIES

The project will focus on restoration of the riparian corridor through chemical and mechanical removal of Russian olive, tamarisk and secondary invasive species. Biological, cultural, mechanical, and chemical methods (Integrated Pest Management) will all be utilized, as possible. Streambank erosion will also be treated in the corridor.

OUTCOMES

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A restored riparian corridor

Improved plant productivity, health, structure and composition.

Improved active floodplain and conveyance

Wildlife habitat will be improved by restoring the riparian forest and grass-forb understory

Reduced streambank erosion by re-establishing native willows and cottonwoods

Reduced frequency and pressure of noxious weed species

Reduced Salts in surface and groundwater

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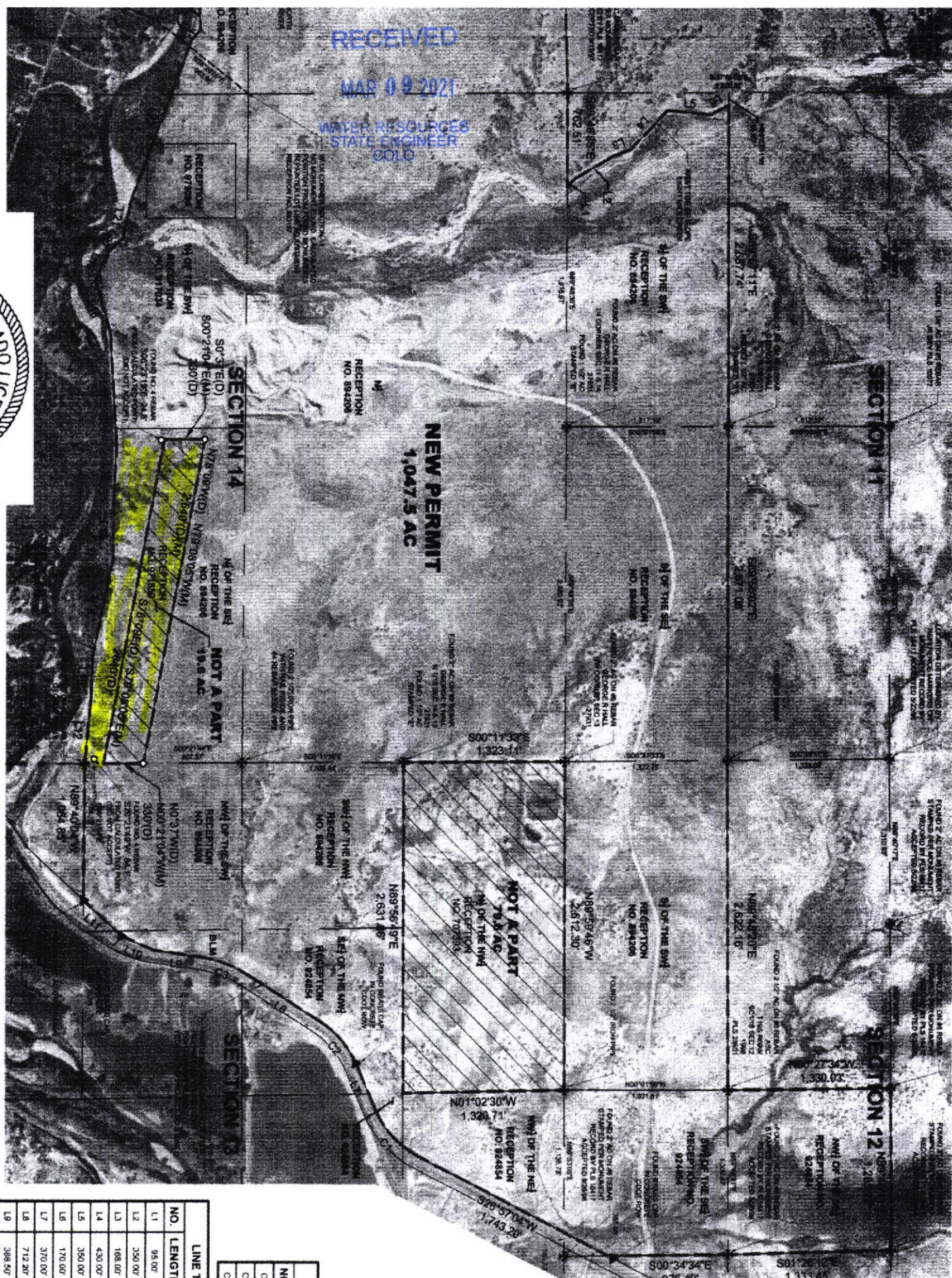
[Policy and Links](#) | [Non-Discrimination Statement](#) | [Information Quality](#) | [USA.gov](#) | [WhiteHouse.gov](#)

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Penrose P.t

1 JANUARY 11 AM 11:00 - 1:01

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STATE ENGINEER
GOLD



--- NEW PERMIT BOUNDARY

LINE TABL		NO. 1	
NO.	LENGTH	B	C
L1	95.00'	N	C1
L2	350.00'	N	C2
L3	168.00'	N	C3
L4	430.00'	N	
L5	350.00'	N	
L6	170.00'	N	
L7	370.00'	S	
L8	712.20'	S	
L9	388.60'	S	
L10	288.30'	S	
L11	420.80'	S	

RECEIVED

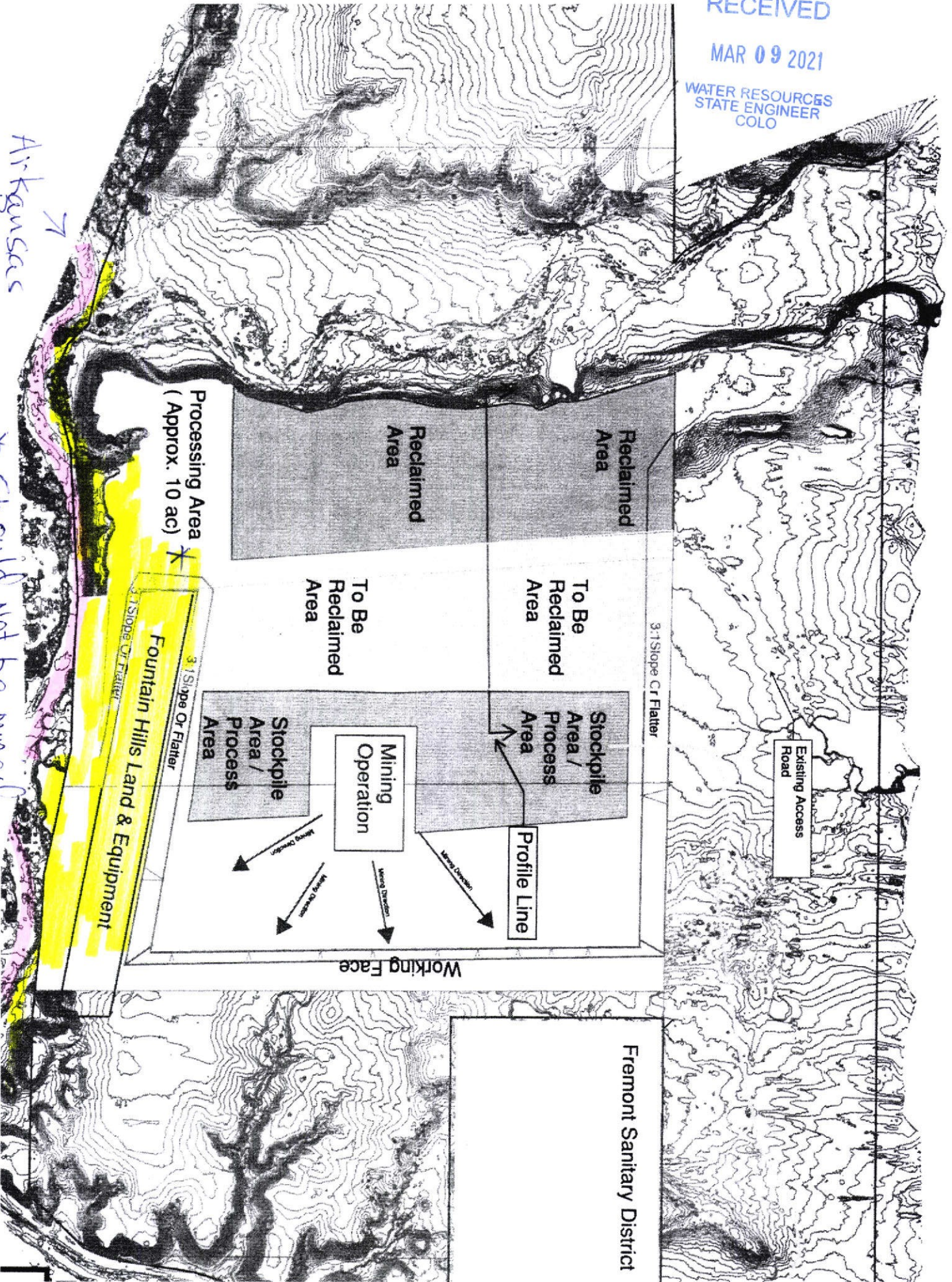
MAR 09 2021

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Pennrose Pit

Arkansas
River

* Should not be mined



Fremont Sanitary District

Andrews
PO Box 248
Florence, CO
81226



1023



80203

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R2304Y121998-04

Debra Gonzales
Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman St. Room 821
Denver, CO 80203



STATE OF
COLORADO

Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

Letter received in regards to Penrose Pit

1 message

Williams - DNR, Joanna <joanna.williams@state.co.us>

Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 4:20 AM

To: Tim Cazier - DNR <tim.cazier@state.co.us>, Debra Gonzales - DNR <debra.gonzales@state.co.us>

Good Morning Tim,

We received the attached letter in regards to the Penrose Pit DRMS permit application amendment. We are unclear why it was sent to our office since it appears to be a response to a letter from DRMS. Since you were copied on the letter I am forwarding this letter to you.

Regards,

Joanna Williams, P.E.
Water Resource Engineer



COLORADO
Division of Water Resources
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3581 x 8265

1313 Sherman Street, Room 821, Denver, CO 80203

Joanna.Williams@state.co.us | www.colorado.gov/water



DRMS letter.pdf

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