



Response to Consideration of 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: June 15, 2021
TO: Eric C. Scott, Environmental Protection Specialist
CC: Keith Vander Horst, P.E., Chief of Water Supply - Inside Basins
FROM: Javier Vargas-Johnson
RE: Smith Pit, Permit No. M-2021-035
Applicant/Operator: Yuma County
Phone Number: (970) 332-5718
Pt. SW ¼ of Section 25, Twp 3 South, Rng 48 West, 6th P.M., Yuma County
Water Division 1, Water District 65, Northern High Plains Designated Basin, Central Yuma
Ground Water Management District

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after mining operations.
- ☒ Water is proposed to be used at the site for dust control purposes. The applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source, or was diverted in priority under a water right decreed for such mining/industrial use.
- ☒ Any stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation that is not diverted or captured in priority must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours.

COMMENTS: The subject application is for a surface mining operation on 96 acres located approximately 9 miles north of Joes, Colorado. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are sand, gravel, and clay. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its previous use of pastureland upon completion of mining.

Excavations will be up to an anticipated depth of 24 feet below ground surface and are not anticipated to intercept groundwater. The applicant's investigation indicates that the groundwater table is approximately 35 feet below ground surface based on nearby well logs. If groundwater is encountered during excavation then that area will be backfilled with overburden to at least 2 feet above that elevation; a depth of at least 2 feet above groundwater will be maintained in all areas of the mine.

The only anticipated water requirements are for dust control. Water for dust control purposes will be purchased from a local commercial well, if needed. The applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source and be able to provide such documentation to this office upon request.

A dike will be constructed around the north boundary to divert any stormwater runoff around the mining area. All stormwater runoff intercepted by this operation must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise, the operator must make replacements for evaporation.

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

