



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

To: Site File
From: Eric Scott EPS II
Date: June 16, 2021
Re: **Paulene Pit, Permit No. M-1987-090, Complaint Follow-up/Resolution, Revision CT01**

On June 8, 2021 DRMS received a citizen complaint alleging that material was likely being hauled from the Paulene Pit based on the presence of stockpiled material and truck traffic on the site. The permit for the Paulene Pit was revoked and terminated by DRMS, therefore mining activity at this site would be construed as mining without a permit.

DRMS contacted Yuma County Road and Bridge on June 9, 2021 who confirmed that road repair activity (culvert replacement and road elevation raise) had recently been conducted adjacent to that location, and that this was likely the subject of the complaint. Yuma County offered to re-visit the area and take photos of the repair for DRMS. When Yuma County took photos of their road repairs, they confirmed the presence of material on the Cook property that was not associated with County activity (photo 1). However, based on observation from the road, they stated it did not appear that the material was excavated from the former permitted site.

DRMS then contacted property owner Robert Cook by phone on June 9, 2021 to obtain additional information. He stated that the material in question was excess material recently imported to his property from nearby electric transmission line installation. He stated that he intended to utilize the excess material to repair/modify damage to the drainage channel in the area so that storm flows did not impact the road in the future. DRMS relayed this information to Yuma County who confirmed that utility work was occurring in the area, and that the placement of the material appeared to correlate with Mr. Cook's statement.

Based on the information obtained to-date, DRMS has determined that no illegal mining is occurring at the former Paulene Pit or Cook property at this time.



Photo 1 – imported material stockpile, previous pit reclamation visible in foreground.

