




## Response to Consideration of 111 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application

DATE: August 13, 2021  
TO: Elliott R. Russell, Environmental Protection Specialist  
FROM: Sarah Brucker, Water Resources Engineer   
RE: Borrow Pit, Permit No. M-2021-048  
Applicant/Operator: Zak Dirt, Inc.  
Phone Number: (970) 535-4657  
S½ SW¼ Section 23, Twp. 11 South, Rng. 77 West, 6th P.M.  
Water Division 1, Water District 23, Park County

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### CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of groundwater must not occur during or after mining operations.
- ☒ No water is proposed to be used at the site. If water will be used for any purpose at the site, such as for dust control, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source and provide such documentation to this office upon request.
- ☒ 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 replacements for evaporative losses will be required to be made.

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**COMMENTS:** The subject application is for a surface mining operation on 2 acres located approximately 10 miles south of Fairplay, Colorado. The primary commodity to be mined at the site is borrow dirt for use as embankment material in the US 285 bridge replacement project. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its pre-mining use of rangeland.

Mining was expected to begin in late July 2021 and finish in mid-November 2021. The estimated thickness in which the soil will be taken is 5 feet, beginning at a depth of 6 inches. Groundwater is not anticipated to be encountered during mining operations. No water is anticipated to be used for mining operations.

Erosion control logs and compacted berms will be utilized to direct runoff around the perimeter of the borrow site. Should stormwater be intercepted by this operation either before or after reclamation, the stormwater must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours; otherwise, the operator/landowner will need to make replacements for evaporation.

The project involves replacement of a bridge over the South Fork of the South Platte River. If any work is done in or near the river that could alter flows or otherwise negatively impact downstream water users, the operator will need to coordinate with the District 23 Water Commissioner (Garver Brown; 719-836-2557; [garver.brown@state.co.us](mailto:garver.brown@state.co.us)). Such communication is also required in order to assist with conveying information to the operator about potential high flows in the South Fork of the South Platte. The operator may need to obtain a Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers if any construction will occur within the river bed.

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

