



August 23, 2021

Katie Todt  
Lewicki and Associates, PLLC  
3375 West Powers Circle  
Littleton, CO 80123

**RE: Young Ranch Resource Quarry, File No. M-2021-009, 112 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application, Notice of Comments and Objections Received**

Ms. Todt:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) has received one additional timely agency comment letter on the Young Ranch Resource Quarry application, File No. M-2021-009. This comment letter was received within the public comment period which began when the application was filed for review on May 17, 2021 and closed on July 21, 2021 (on August 22, 2021 for the City of Idaho Springs due to late notice). The additional agency commenter has been added to the list below by the date their letter was received, and the letter is enclosed for your review.

Agency comments received:

- 1) May 20, 2021 – Comment received from History Colorado, State Historic Preservation Office
- 2) August 20, 2021 – Comment received from Jerad Chipman of City of Idaho Springs

Timely objections received:

- 1) July 15, 2021 – Objection received from Carolyn Goltra, representing Goltra Ranch West, LLC
- 2) July 19, 2021 – Objection received from Edward Decicco
- 3) July 19, 2021 – Objection received from Drew Frank
- 4) July 19, 2021 – Objection received from Peech Keller
- 5) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Robert Bowland
- 6) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Carolyn Collins Petersen
- 7) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Eric Douglas
- 8) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Dana Jones
- 9) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Kassy Kirchner
- 10) July 20, 2021 – Objections received from Jim Reid
- 11) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Clare Stone
- 12) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Virginia Unseld
- 13) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Cecilia Waldron
- 14) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Gail Watson
- 15) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Robert Wise
- 16) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Julia Ziobro



- 17) July 20, 2021 – Objection received from Anthony Zotti
- 18) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Jonalyn Agar
- 19) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Sheila Carlon
- 20) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Candy Decker, representing EMERGE
- 21) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Ed Dentry
- 22) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Suzan Dentry
- 23) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Steven Eppelheimer
- 24) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Rhonda Horwitz-Romano
- 25) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Ted Johnson
- 26) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Anthony Kaspari
- 27) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Margi Kaspari, representing Friends of Clear Creek
- 28) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Jannell Lowe
- 29) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Joseph Lucas III
- 30) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Dienne Powell
- 31) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Mary Preister
- 32) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Robin Raulf-Sager
- 33) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Marith Reheis
- 34) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Constance Reid
- 35) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Becky Jo Rigo, Esq., representing Albert and Mary Jane Frei Irrevocable Trust
- 36) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Thomas Ripley
- 37) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Carol Scardello
- 38) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Sally Shriner
- 39) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from Michelle Thomas
- 40) July 21, 2021 – Objection received from James White, representing SOLVE Clear Creek County

Untimely objections/comments received:

- 1) July 22, 2021 – Objection received from Tim Preister

Please inform the Division of how the applicant intends to address the jurisdictional issues raised by timely objectors and any concerns identified by agencies. This information can be submitted during the adequacy review process.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129 (office) or 303-945-9014 (mobile), or by email at [amy.eschberger@state.co.us](mailto:amy.eschberger@state.co.us).

Sincerely,



Amy Eschberger  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Encls: Comment letter from Jerad Chipman of City of Idaho Springs, received on August 20, 2021

Cc: Ben Miller, Lewicki and Associates, PLLC  
Robert L. Young Jr., Young Ranch Resource, LLC  
Rob Zuber, DRMS  
Zach Trujillo, DRMS  
Michael Cunningham, DRMS

## **DRMS Comment OR Objection Intake Tool**



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

By submitting this form, you are providing a comment or objection to the public record of a permitting action currently under review by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### **Date of Comment or Objection**

08/20/2021

**\*** *Indicates a Required Field*

#### **Contact Type \***

- ☐ Individual  
☐ Group  
☒ Agency  
☐ Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

#### **Agency Name \***

City of Idaho Springs

#### **Your First Name \***

Jerad

#### **Your Last Name \***

Chipman

#### **Your Address \***

1711 Miner Street

#### **Your Address 2**

P.O. Box 907

#### **Your City \***

Idaho Springs

#### **Your State**

CO

#### **Your Zip Code \***

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202

80452

#### **Email Address \***

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail.

planning@idahospingsco.com

#### **Your Phone Number \***

Used only to follow up.

3035674421

**Extension**

118

**Alternate Phone Number**

Used only to follow up.

**Alternate Phone Extension****Connection to Operation \***

Select all that apply

- ☐ Land Owner of affected land
- ☐ Mineral Owner
- ☐ Adjacent Land Owner
- ☒ Government Agency

- ☐ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- ☐ Nearby Resident
- ☐ Concerned Citizen
- ☐ Other

**DESCRIPTION OF COMMENT OR OBJECTION**

(Please be as specific as possible)

**Comment/Objection Narrative \***

Questions and Comments that resulted from the Idaho Springs City Council Work Session on August 16, 2021.

How would the proposed quarry effect the water quality in the area especially Clear Creek? Clear Creek has struggled with water quality and the potential to affect that water quality is concerning. The City is also concerned for the potential of contaminating the aquifer underneath the site. It is highly probable that there are mineral veins through the site, and if those mineral veins are disturbed it could become possible that stormwater accesses the heavy metals altering the pH balance of the water and carrying contaminants into the groundwater and downstream. On the opposite side, there are concerns that the ground water could start to evaporate if the site was disturbed.

How would the developer address mineral veins? The water quality concerns prompt the question of would the developer be required to construct a water treatment facility similar to the one located are the Argo Tunnel?

It appears that there will be depressions in two locations upon the final excavation configuration. Would these locations become reservoirs? Where would the outlet be for these reservoirs? The City is concerned about future contamination and infiltration into the ground water from mineral content. Stormwater from the waste rock landform will erode into North Clear Creek prompting concerns for water quality in the Creek, which is utilized by many downstream residents for water, and there is already high scrutiny on the watershed's water quality.

Is there environmental data from the construction of the Central City Parkway? Have soil boring been taken? This information should provide insights into the compositions of the site and the potential mineral veins that could be encountered. The City would like to review that data.

The City is concerned about the number of trucks per day that this would add to the area. Interstate -70 and Highway 6 are already beleaguered by heavy traffic including many truck related delays and fires. How many trucks per day are envisioned to be generated from the site? Most of this traffic will traverse a portion of the City. This will affect the business residents in the Hidden Valley area.

The City is also concerned about the potential for dust to affect residents and businesses. The wind is predominately from the west, however, a northern or eastern wind could spread dust into portions of the City creating health and welfare concerns. The air quality in and around Idaho Springs is already compromised with the traffic from Interstate-70 hanging in the valley and the new annual summer haze created by wildfires near and far.

Idaho Springs continues to progress as a tourist destination. One of the most recent developments is the recently approved construction of trails and possible event space within the Virginia Canyon Mountain Park located approximately two miles away from the quarry site. The City is concerned that the quarry will affect the views from this tourist destination diminishing the enjoyment of the public that wishes to frequent the amenities.

Wildlife preservation and the protection of their habitat is of concern to the City. The City has recently worked with the State regarding the protection and preservation of wildlife area in the Virginia Canyon Mountain Park. Those concerns are most likely valid for this site due to its close proximity.

The City finds it surprising that financial security in the form of a bond or letter of credit has not been required of the developer. Security is needed to assure that proper restoration is conducted along with erosion control and other mitigation measures.

**Permit Number \***

Enter valid letter and then numbers, for example M122112211 or C123456789.

M2021009

**Permitting Action Type**

Select revision type or leave blank if comment pertains to a new permit application or NOI

**Permit Type**

**County \***

Gilpin

Enter one county only

**Site Name**

Young Ranch Resource Quarry

**Permittee/Operator Name**

Young Ranch Resource LLC.

**Comment or Objection \***

- ☐ Objection
- ☐ Support
- ☒ General Comment
- ☐ Agency Comment

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload? \***

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

By submitting this form electronically you agree to receive any/all follow up correspondence from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety at the email address you have provided.