




Response to Consideration Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Conversion Application

DATE: October 1, 2021
TO: Brock F. Bowles, Environmental Protection Specialist
FROM: Sarah Brucker, Water Resources Engineer 
RE: Hayes Pit, Permit No. M-1998-065
Applicant/Operator: Washington County
Phone Number: (970) 246-3347
SE¼ Section 32, Twp. 3 North, Rng. 50 West, 6th P.M., Washington County
Water Division 1, Water District 65, Northern High Plains Designated Basin and W-Y
Groundwater 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.
- ☒ 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 the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.
- ☒ Water is not proposed to be used at the site for any purpose. Should water be required for mining or reclamation operations in the future, the applicant will need to document that the water was obtained from a legal source and provide such documentation to this office upon request.

COMMENTS: The Hayes Pit is an existing surface mining operation located approximately 2½ miles northwest of Otis, Colorado. The primary commodities mined at the site are Dobie clay and gravel for road construction. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to its previous use of cropland upon completion of mining.

The subject application is for the conversion of the existing Construction Materials Limited Impact 110 Operation Reclamation Permit to a Construction Materials Regular 112 Operation Reclamation Permit. The application seeks to increase the number of permitted acres from the 9.5 acres allowed under the limited impact operations permit to 160 acres to allow for mining to progress to the west.

The proposed maximum depth of the pit is 15-20 feet. Groundwater is not anticipated to be encountered during mining, and no water is required for mining operations. The only surface water occurring onsite will be runoff after a heavy rainfall. Should any precipitation intercepted by this operation not infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours, the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation.

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

