



## Response to Consideration Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Conversion Application

DATE: November 16, 2021  
TO: Peter S. Hays, Environmental Protection Specialist  
FROM: Javier Vargas-Johnson, Water Resources Engineer  
RE: Dunn Pit, Permit No. M-2021-059  
Applicant/Operator: Loveland Ready-Mix Concrete, Inc.  
Phone Number: (970) 667-1108  
NE¼ Section 3, Twp. 4 North, Rng. 67 West, 6th P.M., Weld County  
Water Division 1, Water District 4

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### CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation will consume groundwater by: ☒ evaporation, ☒ dust control, ☒ reclamation, ☒ water removed in the mined product, ☐ processing, ☐ other.
- ☒ Prior to initiation of these uses of groundwater, the applicant will need to obtain either a gravel pit or other type of well permit, as applicable. However, prior to obtaining a permit, an approved substitute water supply plan or decreed plan for augmentation is required.
- ☒ Prior to approving a well permit, the applicant must conduct a field inspection of the site and document the locations of wells within 600 feet of the permit area. The applicant must then obtain a waiver of objection from all well owners with wells within 600 feet of the permit area or request a hearing before the State Engineer.
- ☒ 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.

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**COMMENTS:** The subject application is for a surface mining operation on 118 permitted acres located approximately 1 mile northwest of the Town of Milliken. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are sand and gravel. The site is proposed to be reclaimed to a land use of wildlife habitat, groundwater sourced ponds, and mitigated wetlands and open space.

The site is proposed to be wet mined. An excavator will be used to mine material wet down to the bedrock, estimated to be approximately 30 feet below ground surface. Prior to the exposure of any groundwater at the site, the applicant must first obtain a well permit and valid substitute water supply plan or decreed plan for augmentation. The applicant has submitted a request for a substitute water supply plan to this office and an application for a gravel pit permit. The requested start date of the substitute water supply plan is January 2023, when the applicant expects to have obtained approval of all necessary permits. The consumptive use of groundwater at the site by evaporation, dust control, water retained in the mined product, and reclamation vegetation establishment is estimated total 21.80 acre-feet during the first year of operation. The applicant has an agreement with the City of Loveland for the supply of replacement water necessary for the operation and approval of the substitute water supply plan.



The final reclamation plan includes unlined ponds of exposed groundwater at the site. The ponds will be required to be included in a plan for augmentation prior to final release of the site.

Stormwater will be diverted into the mining cells or be allowed to flow through the site using historical channels in undisturbed portions of the site. If stormwater runoff is intercepted by this operation and is not diverted or captured in priority, it must be released to the stream system or infiltrate into the ground within 72 hours; otherwise the operator will need to make replacements for evaporation from the surface area of the intercepted stormwater.

The Applicant has conducted a baseline groundwater assessment to determine support geotechnical analyses, wetland mitigation decisions, and to assess potential impacts associated with the proposed sand and gravel mine. As part of the baseline groundwater assessment the applicant has constructed four monitoring wells.

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