



Response to Reclamation Permit Amendment Application Consideration

DATE: December 13, 2021

TO: Timothy Cazier, Environmental Protection Specialist (tim.cazier@state.co.us)

EC: Keith Vander Horst, P.E., Chief of Water Supply - Inside Basins
Chris Grimes Ground Water Commission Staff
Division 2 Office, District 10 Water Commissioner

FROM: Ioana Comaniciu, P.E.

RE: Solberg Pit, Permit No. M-1981-044-AM3
Operator: Solberg Gravel LLC
Contact: Robert Solberg, Solberg Gravel LLC, (719) 683-3198
The N1/2 of Sec. 21, Twp. 13S, Rng. 64W, P.M., El Paso County
Upper Black Squirrel Creek Designated Ground Water Management District and Upper
Black Squirrel Creek Designated Ground Water Basin

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

- ☒ The proposed operation does not anticipate exposing groundwater. Therefore, exposure of ground water must not occur during or after mining operations. The Applicant must ensure that mining will stay at least 2 feet above the ground water table throughout the proposed mining operations. In the event that the mining operation exposes groundwater, the pit(s) must be backfilled to a point where groundwater at least 2 feet below ground surface, or the operator will need to pursue a Ground Water Commission replacement plan to replace depletions to the respective stream regimes.
- ☒ The applicant has indicated that water for the mining operations at the site will be from an existing well located on the property. The existing well identified in the amended application is currently operated under permit no. 85276-F. Well permit no. 85276-F was issued on March 23, 2021, pursuant to CRS 37-90-107(7) and the Findings and Order of the Colorado Ground Water Commission dated July 10, 2006, for Determination of Water Right No. 929-BD and for the change of use of an existing well constructed under permit no. 65175-F (canceled). The use of ground water from this well is limited to domestic, commercial, industrial, irrigation, stock watering and replacement supply and the total amount of groundwater that may be withdrawn by this well under this permit in combination with permit no. 85275-F is limited to a volume of 8964.7 acre-feet (or 89.647 acre-feet/year), subject to the conditions of Determination of Water Right no. 929-BD. Well permit no. 85276-F is producing water from the Arapahoe aquifer. Well permit no. 85276-F can serve the Solberg Pit site including the land that is subject to this amendment, as long as well permit no. 85276-F is operated within the conditions of the permit and the Determination of Water Right no. 929-BD.
- ☒ If stormwater runoff is intercepted by this mining operation it must be released to the stream system within 72 hours. This may require a discharge permit from CDPHE-WQCD. Otherwise, the operator will need a Ground Water Commission approved replacement plan to replace depletions to the respective stream regimes.

COMMENTS: The purpose of this amendment is to increase the size of the permitted acres from the original 234.56 acres to approximately 314.56 acres. The mining method and production will be consistent with current practices. The subject amended application is for a surface mining operation on approximately 80 acres located in the W1/2 of the NW1/4 of Section 21, Township 13 South, Range 64 West of the 6th P.M., El



Paso County. The primary commodity to be mined at the site is sand deposits for primary use in construction. The depth of mining will be consistent with current practices of approximately 40 feet below ground surface. The area to be mined is currently used for agricultural purposes. No dewatering or other impoundments are anticipated for the mining operations.

The applicant may contact the State Engineer's Office with any questions.