

Response to Reclamation Permit Application Consideration

- DATE: February 24, 2022
- TO: Peter S. Hays, Environmental Protection Specialist, transmission via email at: <u>peter.hays@state.co.us</u>
- EC: Division 1 Office, District 2 Water Commissioner

FROM: Ioana Comaniciu, P.E.

RE: Section 20 Gravel Mine, File No. M-2022-001 Operator: Red Tierra Equities, LLC- Drew Damiano (303)-771-1005 Contact: Civil Resources, LLC, Kyle Regan (408) 930-2544 Section 20, Twp 4 North, Rng 66 West, P.M., Weld County

CONDITIONS FOR APPROVAL

The proposed operation will consume ground water by: \boxtimes evaporation, \boxtimes dust control, \boxtimes dewatering, \boxtimes water removed in the mined product, \boxtimes reclamation:

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 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 all 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.

COMMENTS: The subject application is for a surface mining operation on approximately 630.15 acres located in the Section 20, Township 4 North, Range 66 West of the 6th P.M. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are sand and gravel. The area to be mined is currently used for agricultural purposes. The mining plan currently includes mining in eight majors stages ranging in size from 25 to 30 acres. Each major stage consists of minor phases that are expected to last approximately one year.

The mined material will be processed into various products to be used as construction materials. The mining plan calls for excavation to remove approximately 2,000,000 tons of aggregate per year. The aggregate reserves at the site consist mainly of gravelly sand which grades to sandy gravel, usually becoming more gravelly with depth. All stages will include the dewatering trenches around the stage perimeter. All aggregate material excavated from the mine stage will be dewatered and dry mined. The majority of the site will be reclaimed to lined water storage reservoirs and any unlined area with exposed groundwater will be backfilled and reclaimed as commercial.

Prior to the use/exposure of any groundwater the applicant must first obtain a well permit and a substitute water supply plan or decreed plan for augmentation. The site must continue to be operated under a substitute water supply plan until such time as the proposed storage reservoirs are completed and replacement of all lagged depletions shall continue until there is no longer an effect on the stream.



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Any storm water runoff intercepted by this operation that is not diverted or captured in priority must infiltrate into the ground or be released to the stream system within 72 hours. Otherwise, the operator will be required to make replacements for evaporation.

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