

April 29, 2022

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, Adequacy Review No. 5

Ms. Todt:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) has completed its 5<sup>th</sup> adequacy review of your 112 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application submitted for the Young Ranch Resource Quarry located in Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties. All comment and review periods for the application began on May 17, 2021, when the application was called complete for filing purposes. The decision date for the application is set for <u>May 17, 2022</u>.

The Division has identified adequacy items in the application requiring additional information or clarification. These items are identified below under their respective exhibit heading, and are numbered sequentially.

## Exhibit E – Reclamation Plan (Rule 6.4.5):

1) The applicant is proposing to place coarse blasted rock mulch on reclaimed highwall and WRL slopes at a coverage rate of 50-80%. This rock layer would be placed on top of the applied growth medium prior to the slopes being planted with the proposed grass or tree/shrub mixtures. This would leave only 20-50% of the reclaimed slopes for revegetation. As previously mentioned, the Division is unfamiliar with this proposed reclamation technique and has some concerns about whether it will provide for the greatest probability of success in plant establishment and vegetation development, as required by Rule 3.1.10(4). The Division believes a lower percent rock coverage would provide the interstitial space needed for successful revegetation, but still provide erosion control and microclimates for seed germination (as intended). Therefore, please revise the rock coverage rate to include no more than 50% rock coverage for final reclamation.

## **Additional Items:**

- 2) All adequacy items identified by Rob Zuber, DRMS have been addressed (see enclosed letter, dated April 26, 2022).
- 3) Pursuant to Rule 1.6.2(1)(c) and (2), any changes or additions to the application on file in our office must also be reflected in the public review copy which was placed with the local County Clerk and Recorder. Pursuant to Rule 6.4.18, you must provide our office with an affidavit or receipt indicating



April 29, 2022 Katie Todt Lewicki and Associates, PLLC Page 2 of 2

> the date this was done. Please ensure the revised application submitted to the Gilpin and Clear Creek County Clerk and Recorder offices includes all revised materials submitted to the Division.

This concludes the Division's 5<sup>th</sup> adequacy review of your application. <u>Please ensure the Division sufficient</u> time to complete its review process by responding to these items no later than **May 3**, **2022**.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129 or by email at <u>amy.eschberger@state.co.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Uny Erchluger

Amy Eschberger Environmental Protection Specialist

Encl: Fourth Adequacy Review, from Rob Zuber, DRMS, dated April 26, 2022

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



## **MEMORANDUM**

Date: April 26, 2022
To: Amy Eschberger and Michael Cunningham, DRMS
From: Rob Zuber, DRMS
RE: Young Ranch Resource Quarry (M-2021-009), Fourth Adequacy Review

I reviewed the applicant's responses to my third adequacy memorandum (letter from Lewicki & Associates, dated 26 April 2022). All of my adequacy items have been addressed sufficiently by the applicant.

