



September 1, 2022

Rob Zuber
Environmental Protection Specialist
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Request for Technical Revision to
Lemoine Gravel Pit Reclamation Plan
Permit # M-79-140

Dear Rob,

Delta County has leveled, seeded, and monitored the reclamation area of the Lemoine Gravel Pit and has provided information to the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety. Based on input from the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety, a technical revision was put forward to modify the seed mix to a dryland grass mix, and this was applied following best management practices. Due to no significant moisture since 2017 and no monsoonal weather pattern since 2015, the dryland seeding did not produce the desired results.

Delta County requests a Technical Revision to the Lemoine Gravel Pit Reclamation Plan, Permit number M-79-140, located 2 miles northeast of the Town of Hotchkiss. Delta County proposes to modify the seeding to now include a pasture mix of 40% Orchard grass, 50% Alfalfa, and 10% Brome grass. The low spots in the seeding area will be filled and graded with topsoil stockpiled at the Delta County Road & Bridge District 3 shop. Approximately 19,212 cubic yards of fill material will be imported using County dump trucks. The fill will be graded and compacted using Maintainer. The filling and grading would begin on October 3, 2022, and be completed by October 31, 2022. After filling the low spots, Delta County will hire a local farmer to establish the crop. The seed mix would be planted along with a cover crop of oats in fall 2022 if weather conditions are conducive to a dormant season planting. If planting isn't completed in the fall of 2022, the planting will occur in spring 2023. The area would then be marked to improve irrigation and water distribution. Irrigation pipe will be put in place prior to the emergence of the cover crop and pasture plants. In the spring, the crop will emerge, be irrigated, and be established. Upon significant establishment, the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety will be called to assess the established crop.

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with me.

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