

Response to Reclamation Permit Application Consideration

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

FROM: Ioana Comaniciu, P.E.

RE: Windsor East Mine, File No. M-2022-042 Operator: Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. - Julie Mikulas (970)-407-3631 Contact: Tetra Tech, Inc. - Pam Hora (720) 864-4507 W1/2 of Section 36, Twp 6 North, Rng 67 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 ground water, 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 150.3 acres located in the W ½ of Section 36, Township 6 North, Range 67 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. The Windsor East Mine site is on land owned by GWIP, LLC (GWIP). Martin Marietta Materials has a lease to mine the GWIP property. The primary commodities to be mined at the site are sand and gravel. The mining plan currently includes mining in four phases, called as Cells A, B, C and D. These phases are neither representative of the maximum area of disturbance nor do they limit disturbance to a particular phase. A non-jurisdictional wetland area was also identified on the site. The area to be mined is currently used for agricultural purposes.

The mining plan calls for excavation to remove aggregate from approximately 10 feet. Eight monitoring holes were drilled in 2017 for the property owner and Martin Marietta drilled 16 additional holes across the site in December 2019. The drilling logs indicate the general subsurface profile consists of approximately 3 to 9 feet of silty to clayey sand overburden, overlying approximately 6 to 17 feet of well graded gravel with varying amounts of sand and silt, overlying claystone bedrock. Groundwater was encountered at depths ranging from 4 to 7 feet in the most recent 2019 Martin Marietta holes.

Dewatering trenches and pumps will be installed prior to the excavation of aggregate material. All aggregate material excavated from the mine phases will be dewatered and dry mined. The site will be developed as two water storage reservoirs proposed to be lined in accordance with the August 1999 State Engineer Guidelines for Lining Criteria. Prior to the use/exposure of any ground water the



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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 reservoirs are lined, lining approved by this office, backfilling completed and replacement of lagged depletions shall continue until there is no longer an effect on stream.

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.