

## Mining Plan:

We are requesting that the Division of Minerals and Geology allow us to mine this site as an extension of the Popes' No. 1 Pit. Both Mr. Pope and Mr. Everhart have expressed approval of the idea of continuing the existing mine face to the north. This will allow uniform mining and reclamation of the properties and not leave an un-natural "wall" between the properties. We anticipate using the existing road into the Popes' Pit until all mining is completed in that pit. Once the area between the Pope and Everhart properties is depleted we will finish reclamation of the Popes' Pit and will move the access to a point as shown on the attached map.

Pueblo County uses these pits for routine road maintenance. We will be periodically mining in the pit as needed, usually less than 180 days per year. We anticipate at least a eight-year mining period on this site depending on the availability and need for the gravel in this area. This should be a long-term, low-impact mining operation similar to the mining operation in the Popes' No. 1 Pit.

We anticipate expanding the gravel mining operation to a depth of between 25 and 30 feet with respect to the area designated as Test Hole 2 (TH-2) in the attached study Dated September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Slopes will be kept at a maximum of 3:1. Waste rock, which in this area is typically very large rocks, will be buried into the slope to provide the "rolling hill" look instead of the flat, smooth slopes done in the past. This will be done to provide a more natural look to the previously mined area.

This operation will be a simple extraction of sand and gravel by front-end loaders and dump trucks. The County will perform periodic screening. All crushing will be done by outside contractors through specific contracts. We will not have any offices, storage/buildings, etc. Equipment will be left on the site as needed and we will have a small (55 gallon) fuel tank. Please see the attached maps for estimated locations of the stockpiles, waste materials, access roads, fuel tank, etc.

The Investigative subsurface conditions carried out by CTL determined that no Ground Water was present in depths as low as 40 ft., therefore we do not anticipate encountering any groundwater, the operation should not impact any water rights. Due care and diligence will be taken if any hazardous materials are encountered during mining, though we do not anticipate encountering any on this site. Any hazardous materials will be properly removed and disposed of per the applicable rules and regulations governing that particular type of material.

Our mining operations will be limited to less than 10 acres at a time to reduce mining impact on the area and because our operations have historically been small. Reclamation of the site will be on going. We will perform reclamation on an average of every 6 acres as we go. Our experience with the Pope's No. 1 Pit has been that vegetation is relatively easy to establish in this area and we don't believe this site will be any different. Additionally, we will be keeping a buffer of 150 to 200 feet of undisturbed vegetation between the mine area and the Red Creek. This is similar to what has been done in the Popes No. 1 Pit and it appears to work adequately to catch any silt or sediment that would otherwise enter the Red Creek.