



## MEMORANDUM

Date: November 3, 2023  
To: Patrick Lennberg, DRMS  
From: Joel Renfro, DRMS  
RE: Thunderbird Sand and Gravel, File No. M-2023-032, New 112c Permit Application,  
Request for Technical Review

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On October 3, 2023, a new 112c Permit Application was filed with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) for the Thunderbird Sand and Gravel mine, submitted by Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. The proposed mine is located in Pueblo County, approximately 0.6 miles south of U.S. Hwy 50 and Pueblo city limits, adjacent to and east of Baxter Road, just north of the Arkansas River. The proposed permit area is 543.5 acres. The property and the substance to be mined are owned by TXI Operations, LP, a wholly owned subsidiary of Martin Marietta Materials.

The application proposes 3 major stages of the operation, including phase 1 in which site development and establishment of the processing plant will occur, phase 2 in which the eastern cell, 130.9 acres in size, will be lined (with a combination slurry wall/clay liner) and mined, and phase 3 in which the western cell, 50.2 acres in size, will be lined (with a combination slurry wall/clay liner) and mined. The application states the two cells will be mined to 200 feet from the river, then backfilled to 400 feet from the river. The proposed post-mining land use is developed water resource. The proposed reclamation plan includes leaving 2 lined water storage reservoirs and revegetating all disturbed lands outside of the reservoirs with grasses.

The Division determined this application to be “complex”, which extended the application decision date by 60 days. This gives an application decision date of March 2, 2024. The public comment period for this application is set to close on November 23, 2023. A pre-operation inspection of the proposed affected lands will be conducted after the public comments period closes, currently anticipated to occur within the first 2 weeks of December.

I am requesting your technical expertise in reviewing this application to determine whether the information presented in Exhibits C-G demonstrates adequate practices to minimize disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic balance of the affected land and of the surrounding area and to the quantity or quality of water in groundwater systems both during and after the mining operation and during reclamation, in accordance with Rule 3.1.6. Please submit your review comments by **December 8, 2023** in the form of a Memorandum on Division letterhead.

The application files are available on Laserfiche and will also be shared with you via Google Drive.

Cc: Jared Ebert, DRMS  
Amy Eschberger, DRMS





## COLORADO

Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

### MEMORANDUM

Date: November 3, 2023  
To: Rob Zuber, DRMS  
From: Joel Renfro, DRMS  
RE: Thunderbird Sand and Gravel, File No. M-2023-032, New 112c Permit Application,  
Request for Technical Review

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I am requesting your technical expertise in reviewing this application to determine whether the information presented in Exhibits C-G demonstrates adequate practices to minimize disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic balance of the affected land and of the surrounding area and to the quantity or quality of water in surface water systems both during and after the mining operation and during reclamation, in accordance with Rule 3.1.6. I am also requesting your assessment of whether runoff from disturbed areas, piled material, and operating surfaces will be managed to protect against pollution of surface water (and, where applicable, control pollution in a manner that is consistent with water quality discharge permits), both during and after the operation in accordance with Rule 6.4.7(2)(c). Please submit your review comments by **December 8, 2023** in the form of a Memorandum on Division letterhead.



The application files are available on Laserfiche and will also be shared with you via Google Drive.

Cc: Michael Cummingham, DRMS  
Amy Eschberger, DRMS



## MEMORANDUM

Date: November 3, 2023  
To: Zach Trujillo, DRMS  
From: Joel Renfro, DRMS  
RE: Thunderbird Sand and Gravel, File No. M-2023-032, New 112c Permit Application,  
Request for Technical Review

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I am requesting your technical expertise in reviewing this application to determine whether the Geotechnical Stability Analysis presented in Exhibit S sufficiently demonstrates that structures located within 200 feet of the proposed affected lands shall not be damaged by activities occurring at the mining operation, in accordance with Rule 6.4.19(b). Please submit your review comments by **December 8, 2023** in the form of a Memorandum on Division letterhead.

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Cc: Amy Eschberger, DRMS

