

November 8, 2023

To: DRMS, Rob Zuber, PE/rob.zuber@state.co.us

Regarding: M-2023-025

My two sisters and I, Cheryl L. Kasten, Carlene M. Stroh, and Karen S. Currier, own property to the west and south of the proposed Bernhardt Gravel Pit.

We have some concerns of this proposed gravel pit:

1. What roads will the trucks hauling the gravel out and traveling back to the proposed gravel pit be using? Our property butts up next to the former Bernhardt property. There is a road that goes between the fields on the two different properties to Weld County Road 46. I sincerely hope this road is not the one going to be used. Our property is used for farming. Trucks going back and forth on this road would cause problems. In addition, no one has asked/talked to my two sisters nor I about using this road for hauling gravel in and out of the proposed gravel pit.
2. Putting up a berm around the proposed gravel pit will cause flooding on our property, especially during heavy rains. During the 2013 flood, the east side of our farm was flooded, as was the west side of the former Bernhardt property. In fact, the Bernhardt farm, specifically where the proposed gravel pit is to be dug, was completely covered in flood water. I have pictures of the 2013 flood that show the extent of the flooding. The water drained back into the South Platte River. If there is a berm in place, how can the water drain back into the South Platte River from our property? Also, our water well is in this same area. The proposal said it would not impact our water well. If the water from flooding cannot drain back into the South Platte, then it **WILL** affect our water well.
3. The South Platte River in this area is a place where turkeys, deer, and other wildlife migrate to. There are deer trails all over our property going to the former Bernhardt property to get to the South Platte River (especially under the railroad trestle). The proposed gravel pit will greatly impact the wildlife in this area.
4. According to the proposal, after the gravel is mined out, the pit will become a reservoir. Why does there need to be a reservoir (another body of water) when the South Platte River is close by? Again, back to concern #2. Putting in a reservoir will cause flooding on our property. In addition, in the event of another flood, where does the overflow of the water from this reservoir go to? On our property? How are you going to keep the water/erosion from the reservoir from seeping under the railroad trestle onto our property? There is a natural ravine under the railroad trestle on our side. Putting in a reservoir does not make sense to us.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Kasten, 511 North Sholdt Drive,
Platteville, CO 80651
Carlene M. Stroh
Karen S. Currier