

December 5th, 2023

PO Box 1550
Meeker, CO 81641

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, & Safety
1313 Sherman St.
Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Meeker Sand & Gravel
Mine Permit #: M-1976-038

RE: Preliminary Bond Calculation AM-3

Greetings,

Thank you for your careful consideration of our proposed, updated bond calculation. We would like to take this opportunity to clarify and provide some additional details which will serve to improve the accuracy of the proposed bond calculation.

The current mine acreage of 49.85 acres includes the commercial/industrial area that will remain following final reclamation. This commercial/industrial area consists of 11.51 acres. Taking this 11.51 acres out, the current worst-case scenario for reclamation would be 38.34 acres of overburden/topsoil replacement and revegetation. (Not counting the 11.51 acres that will remain for Industrial/Commercial use and therefore will remain un-reclaimed).

We would also like to improve the accuracy of the current reclamation bond calculation received by calculating these situations further:

- The surface footprint of the existing overburden piles accounts for 5.09 acres. This acreage will not require any additional overburden replacement and won't require any ripping of the base prior to topsoiling (since it has been protected from traffic and compaction by the pile) This acreage will require topsoil and re-seeding only.
- The surface footprint of the topsoil piles accounts for 5.38 acres. This acreage will not require overburden replacement and won't require ripping of the base prior to seeding (since it has been protected from traffic and compaction by the pile) This acreage will require re-seeding/re-vegetation only.
- The surface footprint/area of containment and recycle ponds is 2.31 acres. The shorelines will be re-shaped as required, but the ponds will remain following final reclamation. Because of this, the surface area of the ponds will not require overburden or topsoil replacement, nor re-seeding/re-vegetation. This acreage can be taken out of the bond calculation.
- The surface area of roads that will remain following final reclamation account for 3.45 acres based on an approximate average width of 25'6" by 5,380 linear feet. These roads will remain following final reclamation and will therefore NOT require reclamation of any type. This acreage can be taken out of the bond calculation.

We would like to request that our bond be re-calculated based on this improved information as provided. This should affect our bond calculation as it will remove some of the reclamation liability.

Additionally, we will be using the stockpiles of overburden and topsoil for reclamation in areas that are nearest to them. I have calculated average haul/push distances for the following:

- Topsoil is located an average of 64 yards away in the current mining phase:
 - The two (topsoil) stockpiles located on the south side of the pit (1.58 ac footprint): 116 yard avg haul/push
 - Large topsoil pile in the middle of the current pit (2.48 ac footprint): 61 yard avg haul/push
 - Smaller topsoil pile on the north boundary (0.57 ac footprint): 30 yard avg haul/push
 - Skinny topsoil pile along northeast boundary (0.33 ac footprint): 57 yard avg haul/push
 - Topsoil pile in southwest area (0.42 ac footprint): 56 yard avg haul/push
- Overburden is located an average of 59 yards away in the current mining phase:
 - Large overburden pile near middle of current mine (1.99 ac footprint): 85 yard avg haul/push
 - Large overburden pile on the northeast side (1.59ac footprint): 71 yard avg haul/push
 - Small overburden in middle of north section (0.28 ac footprint): 26 yard avg haul/push
 - Westerly overburden pile along north boundary (0.81ac footprint): 65 yard avg haul/push
 - Easterly overburden pile along north boundary (0.42 ac footprint): 50 yard avg haul/push

Mining in this pit has historically moved slowly and it is estimated that we will be continuing to mine the pit floor in the current pit for approximately another 5-6 years, before moving forward into the proposed expansion area.

We would like the current reclamation bond calculation to take into account only the current affected acreage minus the 11.51 acres that will remain commercial/industrial and therefore unreclaimed, which comes to 38.34 acres. Since we are very near the maximum allowable affected acreage (50 acres), we are restricted from moving into the new area for some time and we believe a more accurate bond calculation would take this into account now.

When we are preparing to move into Phase I of the proposed expansion area, prior to adding any additional acreage, we propose to notify DRMS so that they can bond accordingly for the additional disturbed acreage of approximately 11 acres in the new mining area. We believe this addresses the current bond calculation in a more accurate way, since we will not be able to move into the new area immediately.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or require anything further. Thank you for your consideration of these points in your bond calculation.

Sincerely,



Katie L. Conrado
Meeker Sand & Gravel