

## Ojection Letters Recieved Through July 10, AM-1, Kirtright Pit, M1986-123

1 message

Lennberg - DNR, Patrick <patrick.lennberg@state.co.us> Thu, Jul 11, 2024 at 10:40 AM To: Peter Wayland <pwayland@weilandinc.com>, "Ken Coulson (ken@coulsonex.com)" <ken@coulsonex.com>, caitlyn@coulsonex.com

Good Morning,

Attached to this email are the Objection Letters the Division has received through July 10, 2024. There are 14 letters of objection.

Please be prepared to address the topics raised in the letters.

Thank you, Patrick

Patrick Lennberg Environmental Protection Specialist

P 303.866.3567 x8114 | F 303.832.8106 Physical Address: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203 Address for FedEx, UPS, or hand delivery: 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216 Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us | https://drms.colorado.gov

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#### July 3, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

#### Dear Mr. Lennberg:

We are residents of the Thompson River Ranch and Thompson Crossing community. We are sending this letter in response to the call for comments regarding the Kirtright Pit amendment (Notice dated June 14, 2024, from Patrick Lennberg) filed by Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. (Coulson). Some of us live adjacent to the Kirtright Pit properties owned by Randy Kirtright and by Linda O'Brien; some of us live adjacent to the Stroh Pit property owned by the Coulson family, and some of us are adjacent to both, but all of us – well over 1,000 households – lie within a mile of these properties proposed to be used for an industrial mine. Although this amendment addresses the Kirtright Pit, Coulson has tied the fate of the Kirtright and Stroh Pits together and therefore we all have the potential to be impacted by this project.

Larimer County approved the Stroh Pit Use by Special Review permit over the objections of the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. But it has since come to our attention that the Stroh Pit USR application was based on false, or at least misleading, information regarding Coulson's right to use the Kirtright Pit property for the processing and storage of Stroh materials. It is our understanding that Linda O'Brien has not given Coulson permission to use her land for this purpose nor to allow access to, or across her property for a conveyor belt or for the 200 one-way haul truck trips per day – an average of one truck every 3 minutes. Even now, after this has come to light, Coulson continues to get a pass to move forward with complete disregard for the property owner's rights. And suddenly, in order to use Kirtright Pit for the Stroh Pit operation despite the property owner's objections, Coulson now claims they need Stroh Pit soil to reclaim Kirtright Pit (despite access to other nearby gravel operations they own to the east and west) and it just so happens it will take them seven more years to finish the Kirtright reclamation – the same time frame given to mine and reclaim the Stroh Pit.

Perhaps even more disturbing than the consistently outdated and inaccurate paperwork (permit applications and annual reports) as well as the inconsistency between the plans submitted to the DRMS and Larimer County, are the number of code violations (including operating outside Kirtright Pit permit boundaries), delay tactics, and outright negligence on the part of Coulson Excavating.

Of particular concern is the damage done to the O'Brien property and the unwillingness of Coulson to correct the damage and finish reclamation. The DRMS sends Coulson letters with corrective actions to be taken which Coulson, time after time, fails to fully complete, or ignores, with little or no consequences, resulting in DRMS eventually giving in to Coulson's wants. (For example, Coulson violates the original Kirtright Pit permit boundary and simply asks for an amendment after the fact to extend the boundary of the permit.) Failure to reclaim the Kirtright Pit properties 16 years after mining was completed and the inability of the DRMS to hold Coulson accountable are certainly reasons for us to question how well Coulson will follow the conditions listed in the County's USR permit for Stroh Pit. And since there is no *guaranteed* 

time frame to finish mining, how long will we wait for reclamation? Will it be 7 years or, like Kirtright, another 15 to 20 years?

There is also considerable confusion regarding the water augmentation plan for the Kirtright Pit which is evident in many of the inspection reports by various agencies. That leads us to question the reliability of claims of water rights for the Stroh Pit reclamation.

If the Kirtright Pit is an example, the Coulsons have not successfully demonstrated that they can operate within the standards and conditions set by DRMS and the County, or within the timeframe they claim. With this new amendment, the Kirtright Pit will not be reclaimed until 23 years after mining was completed there. (Proposed completion date is now May 2031.) The DRMS calls this a reclamation permit, but what Coulson is proposing is anything but reclamation.

Our objection to this Kirtright Pit amendment is that it is just another in a long line of excuses and passes given to Coulson to continue to extend operations for their benefit. A company that has been doing this type of work for several generations should know the regulations and the requirements of completing such an undertaking before they start work on a large-scale, landscape-altering endeavor like a gravel pit. Instead, it appears that it has taught them how to play DRMS and Larimer County and take advantage of the lack of government oversight. DRMS cannot pass this off as only the problem of local government. Both the DRMS and Larimer County have a role to play in holding Coulson accountable and the DRMS can start by ensuring that Kirtright Pit is reclaimed as was initially required by their permit. It is hoped that more stringent oversight will then continue with Coulson's future projects.

Sincerely,

Joseph A Vilha 4480 Thompson parkway Johnstown co 80534



### Stroh Pit / Kirtright Pit

**bkaneb** <bkaneb@gmail.com> To: Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us

Wed, Jul 10, 2024 at 6:49 PM

Hello Patrick,

I am writing this to ask you to look into the shadyness of the Coulson Excavation Conpany In the dealings with the Stroh Quarry and the Kirtright pit. I am in full agreement with the below letter and write this so you know I am a real person. I am a Veteran and my girls have asthma. We need to stop this pit. It is shady. Enough is enough.

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Of particular concern is the damage done to the O'Brien property and the unwillingness of Coulson to correct the damage and finish reclamation. The DRMS sends Coulson letters with corrective actions to be taken which Coulson, time after time, fails to fully complete, or ignores, with little or no consequences, resulting in DRMS eventually giving in to Coulson's wants. (For example, Coulson violates the original Kirtright Pit permit boundary and simply asks for an amendment after the fact to extend the boundary of the permit.) Failure to reclaim the Kirtright Pit properties 16 years after mining was completed and the inability of the DRMS to hold Coulson accountable are certainly reasons for us to question how well Coulson will follow the conditions listed in the County's USR permit for Stroh Pit. And since there is no guaranteed time frame to finish mining, how long will we wait for reclamation? Will it be 7 years or, like Kirtright, another 15 to 20 years?

There is also considerable confusion regarding the water augmentation plan for the Kirtright Pit which is evident in many of the inspection reports by various agencies. That leads us to question the reliability of claims of water rights for the Stroh Pit reclamation.

If the Kirtright Pit is an example, the Coulsons have not successfully demonstrated that they can operate within the standards and conditions set by DRMS and the County, or within the timeframe they claim. With this new amendment, the Kirtright Pit will not be reclaimed until 23 years after mining was completed there. (Proposed completion date is now May 2031.) The DRMS calls this a reclamation permit, but what Coulson is proposing is anything but reclamation.

Our objection to this Kirtright Pit amendment is that it is just another in a long line of excuses and passes given to Coulson to continue to extend operations for their benefit. A company that has been doing this type of work for several generations

#### State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - Stroh Pit / Kirtright Pit

should know the regulations and the requirements of completing such an undertaking before they start work on a largescale, landscape-altering endeavor like a gravel pit. Instead, it appears that it has taught them how to play DRMS and Larimer County and take advantage of the lack of government oversight. DRMS cannot pass this off as only the problem of local government. Both the DRMS and Larimer County have a role to play in holding Coulson accountable and the DRMS can start by ensuring that Kirtright Pit is reclaimed as was initially required by their permit. It is hoped that more stringent oversight will then continue with Coulson's future projects



# Coulson Excavating/Stroh Pit USR Mining Permit (Call for comments regarding the Kirtright Pit Amendment)

1 message

**Daniel Brunt** <dnlbrunt4@gmail.com> To: Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us Cc: JShadduckMcNally@larimer.org Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 12:13 PM

I, Daniel Brunt, am an owner in Thompson River Ranch at 4807 Wildwood Way. My homes rear yard faces the meadow to be mined by Coulson Excavating. I have followed all of the legal documents over the past few years and although I don't agree with the outcome, I am prepared to live with it. I can however not believe the constant delay tactics, code violations, and negligence allowed by Coulson to roughshod over the conditions set by County and DRMS permits. We were told Coulson would begin excavating Stroh Pit no later than July 1, 2024 and be COMPLETED within 7 years, 2031, with Full Reclamation. But now, Coulson Excavating continues to play his games, changes the rules, files whatever he can get away with to suit only Coulson. No regard for the residences in the area. He was informed by DRMS that he was to complete reclamation of the Kitright site, but instead, 16 years after mining was completed, Coulson is not held responsible by DRMS. Now, he claims he needs Stroh pit soil to reclaim Kitright Pit.

If the Kirtright Pit is an example, the Coulson have not successfully demonstrated that they can operate within the standards and conditions set by the County and DRMS, or within the timeframe they claim. The DRMS calls this a reclamation permit, but what Coulson is proposing is anything but reclamation.

My objection to this Kirtright Pit amendment is that it is just another long line of excuses and passes given to Coulson to continue to extend operations for their benefit. Both the DRMS and Larimer County have a role to play in holding Coulson accountable and the DRMS can start by ensuring that Kirtright Pit is reclaimed AS WAS INITIALLY REQUIRED BY THEIR PERMIT.

Sincerely, Daniel Brunt 4807 Wildwood Way

Sent from my iPad

July 8, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

#### Dear Mr. Lennberg:

I am a 10-year residet of the Thompson River Ranch community. I am sending this letter in response to the call for comments regarding the Kirtright Pit amendment (Notice dated June 14, 2024, from Patrick Lennberg) filed by Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. (Coulson). I live adjacent to the Kirtright Pit properties owned by Randy Kirtright and by Linda O'Brien and the Stroh Pit property owned by the Coulson family, and some of us are adjacent to both, but all of us – well over 1,000 households – lie within a mile of these properties proposed to be used for an industrial mine. Although this amendment addresses the Kirtright Pit, Coulson has tied the fate of the Kirtright and Stroh Pits together and therefore we all have the potential to be impacted by this project.

Larimer County approved the Stroh Pit Use by Special Review permit over the objections of the residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. But it has since come to our attention that the Stroh Pit USR application was based on false, or at least misleading, information regarding Coulson's right to use the Kirtright Pit property for the processing and storage of Stroh materials. It is our understanding that Linda O'Brien has not given Coulson permission to use her land for this purpose nor to allow access to, or across her property for a conveyor belt or for the 200 one-way haul truck trips per day – an average of one truck every 3 minutes. Even now, after this has come to light, Coulson continues to get a pass to move forward with complete disregard for the property owner's rights. And suddenly, in order to use Kirtright Pit for the Stroh Pit operation despite the property owner's objections, Coulson now claims they need Stroh Pit soil to reclaim Kirtright Pit (despite access to other nearby gravel operations they own to the east and west) and it just so happens it will take them seven more years to finish the Kirtright reclamation – the same time frame given to mine and reclaim the Stroh Pit.

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Of particular concern is the damage done to the O'Brien property and the unwillingness of Coulson to correct the damage and finish reclamation. The DRMS sends Coulson letters with corrective actions to be taken which Coulson, time after time, fails to fully complete, or ignores, with little or no consequences, resulting in DRMS eventually giving in to Coulson's wants. (For example, Coulson violates the original Kirtright Pit permit boundary and simply asks for an amendment after the fact to extend the boundary of the permit.) Failure to reclaim the Kirtright Pit properties 16 years after mining was completed and the inability of the DRMS to hold Coulson accountable are certainly reasons for us to question how well Coulson will follow the conditions listed in the County's USR permit for Stroh Pit. And since there is no *guaranteed* 

time frame to finish mining, how long will we wait for reclamation? Will it be 7 years or, like Kirtright, another 15 to 20 years?

There is also considerable confusion regarding the water augmentation plan for the Kirtright Pit which is evident in many of the inspection reports by various agencies. That leads us to question the reliability of claims of water rights for the Stroh Pit reclamation.

If the Kirtright Pit is an example, the Coulsons have not successfully demonstrated that they can operate within the standards and conditions set by DRMS and the County, or within the timeframe they claim. With this new amendment, the Kirtright Pit will not be reclaimed until 23 years after mining was completed there. (Proposed completion date is now May 2031.) The DRMS calls this a reclamation permit, but what Coulson is proposing is anything but reclamation.

Our objection to this Kirtright Pit amendment is that it is just another in a long line of excuses and passes given to Coulson to continue to extend operations for their benefit. A company that has been doing this type of work for several generations should know the regulations and the requirements of completing such an undertaking before they start work on a large-scale, landscape-altering endeavor like a gravel pit. Instead, it appears that it has taught them how to play DRMS and Larimer County and take advantage of the lack of government oversight. DRMS cannot pass this off as only the problem of local government. Both the DRMS and Larimer County have a role to play in holding Coulson accountable and the DRMS can start by ensuring that Kirtright Pit is reclaimed as was initially required by their permit. It is hoped that more stringent oversight will then continue with Coulson's future projects.

Sincerely,

Dr. Deborah A. Genet 4812 Wildwood Way Johnstown, CO 80550 970.691.0086



## Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

1 message

Ed Garvey <pinoyyboy@gmail.com> To: Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us Cc: JShadduckMcNally@larimer.org Wed, Jul 3, 2024 at 12:05 PM

#### July 3, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

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#### 7/3/24, 12:42 PM

State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

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Sincerely,

NAME Edward Garvey ADDRESS 4772 Wildwood Way Johnstown, CO 80534



### **Coulson mine**

**Gary Wetzel** <garywetzel@msn.com> To: "Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us" <Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us> Wed, Jul 3, 2024 at 8:34 PM

July 3, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

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#### State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - Coulson mine

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Sincerely,

Gary R Wetzel 4605 Vinewood Way Johnstown, Co 80534 July 8, 2024

#### Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

## Attention: Mr. Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Patrick.Lennberg@state.co.us

Subject:Call for Comments Regarding Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. Amendment<br/>Application for the Kirtright Pit, Larimer County (Permit #M1986123)

Dear Mr. Lennberg:

I am sending this letter in response to the call for comments regarding the Kirtright Pit amendment (Notice dated June 14, 2024, from Patrick Lennberg) filed by Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. (Coulson).

My wife and I are residents of Thompson Crossing (TC). We live approximately 500 feet northeast of the Stroh Pit property owned by Coulson; however, over 1,000 households and the new Riverview PK-8 school in Thompson River Ranch (TRR) lie within a mile of Coulson's proposed open pit gravel mine. Although this amendment addresses the Kirtright Pit, Coulson has tied the fate of the Kirtright and Stroh Pits together. Therefore, all TC and TRR homeowners will be impacted by this Amendment.

Larimer County approved the Stroh Pit Use by Special Review (USR) permit over the objections of the TC and TRR residents. But it has recently come to our attention that the Stroh Pit USR application was based on false, or at least misleading, information regarding Coulson's right to use the Kirtright Pit property for the access, processing and storage of Stroh Pit materials. It is our understanding that at least one property owner, Linda O'Brien, has not given Coulson permission to use her land (Exhibit A) to allow access to, or across her property for any use.

Using the Kirtright Pit as an example, Coulson clearly believes it can ignore the standards and conditions set by the DRMS without consequences. With this new proposed amendment, the Kirtright Pit will not be reclaimed until May 2031 - <u>23 years after mining was completed in 2008.</u>

DRMS must hold Coulson accountable by ensuring that the Kirtright Pit is immediately reclaimed as was initially required by their permit to be completed in 2013. After the Kirtright Pit has been properly reclaimed then Larimer County can deal with the Stroh Pit USR and the O'Brien property rights.

Respectfully,

Mitaly

**Gregory R. Martino** 4642 Angelica Drive Johnstown, CO 80534

Enc: Exhibit A

Cc: Larimer County Commissioner Jody Shadduck McNally JShadduckMcNally@larimer.org NORTH



EXHIBIT A

July 10, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M<u>1986-1</u>23

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Sincerely,

Laura & Scott MacDonald 3543 Barkwood Dr, Johnstown CO 80534



**COLORADO** Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

You are providing a comment or objection to the public record of a permitting action currently under review by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. This form is not intended for reporting of possible violations or illegal activity.

Please note that this form is processed through an automated workflow, and forms with incomplete or erroneous permit, permitting action, or county information may be rejected by the automated process.

Comments/objections should pertain to the Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials or Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Hard Rock, Metal or Designated Mining Operations. Objections and Comments must pertain to issues within the Division's jurisdiction (not pertaining to dust, traffic, noise, hours of operation, affect on property values, local land use decisions, etc.).

Please refer to the Division's **Mining Activity Dashboards** to assist you in providing the information required on this form.

#### **Date of Comment or Objection**

07/04/2024

\*Indicates a Required Field

## This form is for comments or objections on permitting actions. This form is not intended for requests to investigate compliance issues with DRMS rules.

#### Comment or Objection \*

- Objection
- Support
- General Comment
- Agency Comment

#### Contact Type \*

- Individual
- ⊖ Group
- Agency
- Attorney

Please select the appropriate option above to identify who you represent.

Your First Name \*

Mark

Your Last Name \*

Denton

Your Address \* 5067 Ridgewood Dr

Your Address 2

#### Your City \*

Johnstown

Your State

CO

#### Your Zip Code \*

Maximum of 10 digits. (Example) 80202 80534

#### Email Address \*

Enter a valid email address in this field to receive a confirmation e-mail. madofco@yahoo.com

#### Your Phone Number \* (?)

Used only to follow up. 9704088639

Extension

#### Alternate Phone Number (?)

Used only to follow up.

#### **Alternate Phone Extension**

#### Connection to Operation \*

Select all that apply

- Land Owner of affected land
- Mineral Owner
- Adjacent Land Owner
- Government Agency

- □ Structure Owner within 200' of affected land
- Nearby Resident
- Concerned Citizen
- Other

## **DESCRIPTION OF COMMENT OR OBJECTION**

You are providing a comment or objection to the public record of a permitting action currently under review by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. This form is not intended for reporting of possible violations or illegal activity. Please be as specific as possible.

#### Comment/Objection Narrative \*

This pit , and the planned Stroh pit, can and will negatively impact my quality of life in several areas: Noise Dust and fallout Hours of operation Negative visual impact Negatively impact my property value Increased truck traffic

#### Permitting Action Comment/Objection is Regarding

#### Permit Number \* (?)

Enter a valid permit number M1986123

#### County \*

Colorado County where the proposed operation is located

Larimer

Enter one county only

#### Site Name

Kirtright Pit

#### Permittee/Operator Name

Coulson Excavating Company

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Are there supporting photos, maps, or documents you wish to upload?\*

🔾 Yes 💿 No

By submitting this form electronically you agree to receive any/all follow up correspondence from the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety at the email address you have provided.

July 3, 2024

RECEIVED

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203 JUL 092024

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

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Sincerely,

Pat & Charon Can 4831 Saddlewood Cir Johnstown, Co 8534

July 4, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

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Sincerely,

Paul and Susan Fischer 5109 Silverwood Drive Johnstown, CO 80534

RECEIVED

July 5, 2024

JUL 09 2024

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION MINING AND SAFTEY

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

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Sincerely, Sincerely, Richard Boccolucci Richard Boccolucci

Rosè Boccolucci 5121 Silverwood Drive Johnstown, Co. 80534

/ cc: J Shadduck McNally



## **Comments Regarding Stroh Pit and Kirtright Pit in Larimer County**

**ROBERT C CUSHMAN** <robertcushman@msn.com> To: "patrick.lennberg@state.co.us" <patrick.lennberg@state.co.us> Cc: "jshadduckmcnally@larimer.org" <jshadduckmcnally@larimer.org> Wed, Jul 3, 2024 at 10:11 PM

July 3, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist

Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215

Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Comments on Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. – Amendment application for Kirtright Pit, Larimer County, Permit #M1986-123

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State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - Comments Regarding Stroh Pit and Kirtright Pit in Larimer County

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Sincerely,

Robert and Carolyn Cushman

4708 Tarragon Drive

Johnstown, CO 80534

Cc: Larimer County Commissioner Jody Shadduck-McNally.



## Public Comment on permit # is M1986-123, Kirtright Pit, County Larimer, and Permittee Coulson Excavating Company, Inc.

**Terry Baldino** <tbaldino514@gmail.com> To: "Lennberg - DNR, Patrick" <patrick.lennberg@state.co.us> Cc: JShadduckMcNally@larimer.org Thu, Jul 4, 2024 at 11:07 AM

July 4, 2024

Patrick Lennberg, Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

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7/8/24, 9:51 AM State.co.us Executive Branch Mail - Public Comment on permit # is M1986-123, Kirtright Pit, County Larimer, and Permittee Coulson...

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