September 23, 2024

Mr. Chris Girardi Division of Reclamation, Mines, and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

# RE: Adequacy Review 1 Preliminary Review of a 112 Construction Materials Reclamation Permit Application Package, Hunt Farms, Hunt Dirt Mine #2, File M-2024-037; Response

Dear Mr. Girardi:

This letter is being generated to satisfy the adequacy review dated September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for David and Kayleen Hunt's, Strear Dirt Mine, File M-2024-037. The italicized items are the current comments, and the bold text are the responses:

#### Rule 6.4.1- Exhibit A- Legal Description:

1. In accordance with Rule 6.4.1(2), please revise Exhibit A to indicate the location of the main entrance to the mine site showing latitude and longitude or Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates. Please specify coordinates of latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes and seconds or in decimal degrees to an accuracy of at least five (5) decimal places (e.g., latitude 37.12345 N, longitude 104.45678 W). For UTM, the operator will need to specify North American Datum (NAD) 1927, NAD 1983, or WGS 84, and the applicable zone, measured in meters.

The Site access location has been included. SITE ACCESS LOCATION: 40°16'31.79"N 104°48'24.49"W

Application Pages and Rule 6.4.2- Exhibit B – Index Map:

2. Pages 1, 3, and 8 of the application included the Applicant/Operator 'Name' listed as "David Hunt". On Exhibit B Index Map, the Applicant/Operator's name was listed as "Hunt Farms, LLC". Upon review of the Secretary of State's registered businesses, the business "Hunt Farms, LLC" was listed. Please revise the Applicant/Operator Name to be consistent throughout the application.

#### The applicant and operator is David and Kayleen Hunt, the maps have been changed to reflect this.

Rule 6.4.3- Exhibit C- Pre-mining and Mining Plan Maps(s) of Affected Lands:

3. The Division only received two maps titled "Mine Plan, Sheet C-2" with the application submission. If there is a Map C-1 in the application package, it was not submitted. The two "Mine Plan, Sheet C-2" maps are not the same map. Please revise these maps with distinct titles so that they may be differentiated and provide Map C-1 if applicable.

#### Exhibit C-1 "Existing Conditions" has been included.

4. The permit boundary appears to encompass the Hunt Irrigation Pond, DRMS permit No. M-2022-050. Does the Applicant intent to absorb the mining and reclamation of permit M-2022-050 into the Stear Dirt

Page 2 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

Mine affected area? If not, please specifically identify the location of this permit on the Exhibit C and F maps and clearly indicate the lands affected by this operation are not associated with the Stear Dirt Mine affected area. If the Applicant intends to absorb the mining and reclamation of permit No. M-2022-050 into the Stear Dirt Mine affected area, please update the application exhibits accordingly to address this area.

The applicant wishes to absorb permit M-2022-050 into this permit. The M-2022-050 permit is a 111(b) permit which, as of the last DRMS inspection in March 2024, has finished mining and is currently being reclaimed. The quantities for reclamation have been increased to incorporate seeding the disturbed areas around the pond and the overburden stockpile.

5. The permit acreage according to the first page of the application is 277.0 acres. Upon review of Exhibit C, the permit boundary symbol extends outside of "Parcel 1", (#105729100002) and "Parcel 2" (#105729000021) as described in Exhibit A. Upon review of these parcels on the Weld County GIS Hub, Parcel 1 is 295.75 acres and Parcel 2 is 0.25 acres. These two parcels total 296 acres in size and the permit boundary extends beyond these parcels. The Division estimated the permit boundary to be approximately 356.73 acres in size based on the Exhibit C, Mining Plan Map provided. Please clarify this discrepancy and revise all the applicable maps to clearly define the 277.0 acre permit area.

The permit area of 277.0 acres is based on parcel boundaries determined during the land survey plat (rounded up from 276.98). See the attached copy of the survey. The Weld County GIS calculates the area of the parcels and is not accurate. The Division's estimate is likely based on the 200 foot buffer line, the permit boundary has been thickened in relation to the 200 foot buffer line.

6. Please revise and/or provide a map with the following information:

a. All adjoining surface owners of record.

b. There appears to be structures/buildings within 200 feet of the affected area. Please revise the map to show the name of these structures.

c. Show the owner's name, type of structures, and location of all significant, valuable, and permanent manmade structures contained on the area of affected land and within two hundred (200) feet of the affected land.

d. The existing topography of the area with contour lines of sufficient detail to portray the direction and rate of slope of the affected land.

e. The type of present vegetation covering the affected land.

All of these aspects are included with Exhibit C-1. There is not a consistent type of vegetation over the site as it is agricultural with rotating crops which are only present during the growing season.

7. Map C-2 includes a total of nine (9) gas wellheads owned by PDC Energy. In accordance with Rule 6.4.3(b), please include the locations of oil and gas flowlines associated with the wellheads.

There are three (3) producing wells at the Site and all flowlines are shown on the maps. All wells listed as (PA) are plugged and abandoned with associated infrastructure removed. The mine limit is at least twenty (20) feet from the flowlines and one hundred and fifty (150) feet from the producing wells.

8. Please revise the mining plan to indicate the total amount of land that will be affected within the permit boundary.

#### The affected land is equal to the permit boundary.

9. Please include the anticipated general mining direction for the South Cell.

Page 3 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

The mining direction will be from the northeast to the southwest. This has been included in Exhibit D.

10. See item #7 above and revise the narrative regarding gas wellheads and flowlines within the affected area, and how will these features be protected from mining disturbance and reclamation activities.

# All active oil and gas wells and flowlines are outside of the mine limit. Plugged and abandoned wells are cut below grade.

11. Page D-1, subpart (a) indicates the permit boundary will be 277.00 acres +/-. See item #3 above and revise this statement as necessary.

#### 277.0 is correct.

12. Page D-2, subpart (b) states, "The mine was excavated down at a 3 to 1 horizontal to vertical slope on the east, west and south side, along with feathering grades back into existing on the north by Weld County Road 40." Please clarify what this sentence is referring to.

This section was removed as it essentially reiterated the mining section of subpart (a). Subpart (b) now states:

Topsoil and overburden will be stripped with bulldozers, loaders or excavators and stockpiled in the active mine phase. The mined area will be reclaimed to 4-feet below existing grade and tie into existing grade on the perimeter of the mine. This excavation will be amended and planted with crops or dryland native grasses. Historic drainage patterns will be maintained.

13. Page D-2, subpart (d) states that 10 acres will be disturbed during mining at any one time. Please explain this further. What will these 10-acres consist of, such as excavation, haul roads, stockpiles, etc.? Please update the Exhibit C map to depict these 10-acre phases.

The Applicant typically mines 10 acres at a time. This is not meant to limit the amount that the Applicant can actively mine which will depend on market conditions. It is also not meant to indicate that there are any set 10 acre "phases" that the applicant will mine out. The Applicant intends to reclaim concurrently with mining but does not propose a phased bonding approach and as such the whole Site's reclamation will be bonded as if the whole Site has been disturbed without any concurrent reclamation.

#### This subpart has been clarified to say:

Typically, up to 10 acres will be actively mined at any one time.

14. Page D-2, subpart (e) indicates the intent to mine approximately 100,000 tons of material per year. Exhibit E, page E-1 states the intent to mine the North Cell (which contains 76,000 cubic yards of material) for one year, and the South Cell (which contains 866,000 cubic yard of material) for two to four years. The rate of material to be mined per year given the volume of material in the South Cell is insufficient for the proposed timeline of two to four years. Please clarify this discrepancy in the mining and reclamation timeline.

This was a relic of a previous grading plan, this subpart has been changed to say:

# North Cell– mined in year one into year two and reclaimed concurrent with mining South Cell.

South Cell – mined in year two through fourteen and reclaimed concurrently.

15. Page D-2, subpart (e) indicates that the North Cell will be reclaimed using waste material from the South Cell. Subpart (a) of Exhibit E states the North Cell will be backfilled with overburden or sand from the South Pit. Please clarify these statements and define what the waste material will consist of, and subsequently why this waste material is suitable as backfill material.

The salable product for this mine is dirt (overburden and topsoil). The waste material referred to is unsalable material that is contained in the current grading including sand or sandy overburden that does not meet the needs of the purchasers. Page D-2 subpart e has been updated to specify unsalable material (sand and overburden) instead of "waste material". The addition of sand or unsalable overburden to the North Cell will not have a deleterious effect on the proposed reclaimed use of the area.

16. Please clarify whether four feet will be the maximum desired depth for the North and South Cell pits or the average depth of the pit.

# An average depth of four (4) feet is the maximum desired depth for both pits.

17. In accordance with Rule 6.4.4(j), specify the dimensions of any existing or proposed roads that will be used for the mining operation. Describe any improvements necessary on existing roads and the specifications to be used in the construction of new roads. New or improved roads must be included as part of the affected lands and permitted acreage. Affected land shall not include off-site roads which existed prior to the date on which notice was given or permit application was made to the office and which were constructed for purposes unrelated to the proposed mining operation and which will not be substantially upgraded to support the mining operation. Describe any associated drainage and runoff conveyance structures to include sufficient information to evaluate structure sizing.

# Subpart (j) has been added to Exhibit D which states:

A temporary dirt road will be constructed at the Site to allow access through the existing fields. The road will be approximately twenty-four (24) feet wide and will consist of clearing and grubbing the existing field and compacting the soil. The road will be reclaimed from north to south as the mining operation progresses. The road will be constructed at existing grade and will not require any drainage or runoff conveyance structures.

18. The Applicant states they will stockpile topsoil and overburden during mining. Please clarify how topsoil stored on the pit floor will be stabilized, protected from water erosion from storms, and disturbance from concurrent mining operations.

Subpart (b) has been updated to state that topsoil stockpiles will be located "near" the active mine phase.

Page 5 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

A stockpiling section has been added to subpart (a) stating:

### Stockpiling:

Topsoil and overburden stockpiles that remain dormant for fourteen (14) days shall be roughened, mulched, or tackified to stabilize them. Topsoil and overburden stockpiles that remain dormant for more than one-hundred and eighty (180) days shall be seeded with the Weld County upland seed mixture described in Exhibit E (Reclamation Plan).

19. Please clarify how the topsoil stripped and stockpiles for reclamation will be segregated, preserved and stabilized from wind and water erosion before it is replaced.

## Section 3.1.9 Topsoiling has been updated to state:

Section 3.1.9 Topsoiling: Three inches of topsoil will be removed and segregated from other spoil. The topsoil will be blended with manure and used for reclamation. Topsoil stockpiles shall be stored in places and configurations to minimize erosion and located in areas separate from salable product where disturbance by ongoing mining operations will be minimized. Once stockpiled, topsoil shall be rehandled as little as possible. Stockpiles that remain dormant for fourteen (14) days shall be roughened, mulched, or tackified to stabilize them. Stockpiles that remain dormant for more than one-hundred and eighty (180) days shall be seeded with the seed mixture described in subsection (f).

20. Please demonstrate how only three inches of topsoil will be sufficient to accomplish the reclamation plan and ensure that cropland post-mine land use is accomplished.

# The top soil be mixed with manure provided by the operators facilities (the applicant owns a feedlot) and nitrogen fixing crops will be planted to build soil from the sand/overburden below. See the attached letter specifying the process.

21. Please clarify the timing of reclamation in relations to the proposed 10-acre phases. At what point will the mined area be prepared for topsoil replacement and seeding, and will an entire 10-acre phase be reclaimed before initiating mining in a new 10-acre phase?

The mined area will be prepared for topsoil replacement and seeding after reaching final grade. The Applicant will typically mine 10 acres at a time. More than 10 acres may be actively mined at any one time, based on market conditions. Final grading will be completed as soon as feasible after mining in an area is complete. For instance, if an area is likely to be disturbed by mine vehicles or equipment then the Applicant will wait on final grading until a point that the area will no longer be disturbed. The total area disturbed by mining may exceed 10 acres before it is feasible to begin final grading and topsoiling.

The Applicant is not proposing a phased bonding approach and the whole Site's reclamation will be bonded even though the Applicant intends to reclaim as mining progresses.

22. For any internal haul roads within the affected area created, please explain when and how these features will be reclaimed.

The internal haul roads will be mostly located in future mined areas. In these areas the roads will be mined out and the area will be reclaimed as future cropland.

The first six hundred (600) feet of the access road will remain after reclamation to provide access to the reclaimed land use.

23. Page E-2, subpart (c) indicates the Applicant may have the intent to drill auger holes. If drill or auger holes, test pits, soil boring holes, or monitoring wells are intended to be added to the mining plan, please submit a Technical Revision prior.

Any drilling, or test pits will be performed within the affected area and will be abandoned in accordance with State Regulations. All monitoring wells installed at the Site will obtain a monitoring well permit from the State Engineer (Department of Water Resources). Drilling or auger holes, test pits, soil boring holes, or monitoring wells will not affect the proposed Reclamation Plan.

24. Page E-3, subpart (c) under Section 3.1.8 indicates that forbs, shrubs, and tree species will be replaced during reclamation. Please update the reclamation plan to provide details of these plantings.

Plantings will be graminoids as listed in the Reclamation Plan. The references to forbs, shrubs and trees has been removed from this section. Exhibit F-1 has been updated to show areas where crops will be used and where the seed mix will be used.

25. Page E-5, subpart (f)(ii) indicates the reclamation plan map includes a list of plant materials and seeding to be utilized. This map does not include this information. Please revise. **The lists from the Reclamation Plan have been added to Exhibit F-1.** 

26. Page E-5, subpart (f)(v) indicates manure will be applied at 5 tons per acre. If 277 acres will be affected, 1,385 tons of manure will be required. Using the 1.5 tons per cubic yard conversion, about 923.3 cubic yards of manure will be required not 333 cubic yards as indicated on Page E-5. Please revise this page accordingly.

Not all of the acres in the affected area are planned to be reseeded. The total area where topsoil will be removed and replaced is approximately 222.2 acres. Page E-5 has been updated to reflect that the tons of manure required is 1,111 tons.

27. Page E-5, subpart (f)(iv) refers the Division to a letter discussing reclamation in more depth. Please submit this letter and clearly identify where it is located within the permit application package. If it is an appendix to the application and exhibits, please indicate this.

Page 7 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

### The letter has been included with this adequacy response.

28. If the Applicant decides to change the post-mine land from cropland, the applicant would need to apply for and receive approval of an amendment application. Please acknowledge.

### Acknowledged.

29. The Applicant states the Operator owns a sufficient amount of irrigation water and intends to use this water resource during revegetation. Please provide the well permit number of the irrigation well intended to be used.

# The Applicant owns 1/10 of 1 share of the Farmers Independent Ditch (FIDCO) which is currently used to irrigated the property with center pivots.

### Rule 6.4.6- Exhibit F- Reclamation Plan Map:

30. The topography of the north cell is not depicted on the Exhibit F map. Please revise the map to show the topography of the north cell with sufficient detail to portray the direction and rate of slope.

The topography of the north cell will be reclaimed to the existing grade. The map has been updated to show topography in this area.

31. Please revise the reclamation plan map to portray the proposed final land use of each portion of the affected land.

The map has been updated to show the crop extent which is irrigated by center pivot, the existing pond created under permit M-2022-050, and the alternative seed mixture planting.

## Rule 6.4.7- Exhibit G- Water Information:

32. Page G-1, subpart (c) indicates the mine area drains internally, and any releases will be controlled. However, it appears based on the topography of the Exhibit C and F maps that the site will drain to the east/southeast for the South Cell and it is unclear how the site will drain in the north cell. Please provide a plan on how stormwater will be contained within the affected land and how releases will be controlled.

The North Cell will drain into the pit until reclamation when the final grading will mirror the historic drainage pattern. Trapped rainwater in the North Cell during active mining will be pumped to an approved discharge point.

The South Cell will be graded to allow for stormwater to follow historic drainage patterns to the east.

#### The text in Exhibit G has been updated to reflect this.

33. Will any water be used for dust control? If so, please provide the project water requirements including flow rates and annual volumes for development, mining and reclamation, and please identify the source of the water. If multiple sources will be used, please indicate the projected amount from each of the sources of water to supply the project.

Page 8 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

# Dust control will come from a water truck filled offsite at the Applicant's stockyard which has well permits: 0666, 0665, and 0664.

#### Rule 6.4.9- Exhibit I- Soil Information:

34. This exhibit indicates the soil types on the site are shown on Exhibit C-1. As discussed in item #3, an Exhibit C-1 map was not submitted. Please submit this exhibit.

### Submitted.

35. Based on the plan to salvage and replace three inches of topsoil, please update this exhibit to provide a description of the suitability of the salvaged topsoil in terms of depth and quantity for the establishment and maintenance of plant growth.

### See attached letter.

Rule 6.4.12- Exhibit L- Reclamation Costs: 36. Please note the Division will develop a cost estimate to complete reclamation at the site, which will be provided in the future.

### Acknowledged.

Rule 6.4.10- Exhibit J- Vegetation Information: 37. In accordance with Rule 6.4.10(c) revise this exhibit to provide an estimate of the average annual production of the crops produced at the site.

# Exhibit J has been updated to indicate the historical crop production is approximately 27 tons of corn silage per acre.

Rule 6.4.19- Exhibit S- Permanent Man-made Structures:

38. The requirements for this exhibit have not been addressed. Where the affected lands are within two hundred (200) feet of any significant, valuable and permanent man-made structure, the applicant shall:

a. provide a notarized agreement between the applicant and the person(s) having an interest in the structure, that the applicant is to provide compensation for any damage to the structure; or

b. where such an agreement cannot be reached, the applicant shall provide an appropriate engineering evaluation that demonstrates that such structure shall not be damaged by activities occurring at the mining operation; or

c. where such structure is a utility, the Applicant may supply a notarized letter, on utility letterhead, from the owner(s) of the utility that the mining and reclamation activities, as proposed, will have "no negative effect" on their utility. The applicant will need to attempt to obtain structure agreements required under subpart (a) above for all significant, valuable, and permanent man-made structure within 200 feet of the affected land. The applicant will need to provide documentation that this attempt was made (proof of mailing for structure agreements and notices was provided to the

Page 9 Mr. Chris M. Girardi September 23, 2024

Division on 9/4/2024). Please provide copies of the notices, letters, and structure agreements sent. If agreements cannot be reached, then the applicant can address the rule requirements by complying with subpart (b) and/or (c).

Properties and structures located within two hundred (200) feet of the affected land boundary are listed on Exhibit C-1 (attached). As indicated, structure agreements have been sent out to the owners listed and proof of mailing was provided to the Division. The structure agreements were not scanned before being sent off but the agreement between the Well Augmentation Subdistrict of CCW has been returned and has been included as an example of the agreements sent out. As indicated in Exhibit S, the proposed mining operation will pose no risk to surrounding structures due to the shallow excavation. All existing structures have a minimum offset of twenty (20) feet which is well outside of the failure radius for a four (4) foot excavation.

A copy of the notices has been included and returned structure agreement has been included.

39. As indicated above in item #3, Exhibit C-1 was not submitted with the application, please provide this exhibit.

## Included.

## General Comments:

40. The Division received comments from the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, the Colorado Division of Water Resources, and the Weld County Department of Planning Services. The comment letters are attached for your review. Please acknowledge and address the comments noted in the letters and make changes to the application as necessary.

#### Acknowledged. See comments below.

## SEO:

- 1. The Town of Gilcrest is approximately twenty (20) feet in elevation below the Site and depth to groundwater at the Site was determined in the M-2022-050 application to be a maximum elevation of 4750' or twelve (12) feet below the lowest elevation encountered at the Site.
- 2. There are no plans for stormwater detention at the Site. During the active mining of the North Cell, stormwater will flow into the pit and will be pumped to an approved discharge point. During the active mining of the South Cell historic flow patterns will be maintained and best management practices will be used and described in a Stormwater Management Plan. The Operator will apply for a CDPS discharge permit from CDPHE.

## Weld County:

1. The Applicant has had a pre-application meeting with Weld County Planning and will obtain a Use by Special Review prior to mining.

CPW:

- 1. There are no plans for fencing.
- 2. There are no plans for mining deeper than four (4) feet and the mine highwalls will be mined at maximum of 3H:1V with a much shallower slope to the east.

Thank you for your thorough review.

Sincerely,

CIVIL RESOURCES, LLC

lh

Kyle Regan P.G.

Encl:

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#### **Kyle Regan**

From:	Jan Warwick <jwarwick@weld.gov></jwarwick@weld.gov>
Sent:	Monday, September 23, 2024 3:00 PM
То:	Kyle Regan; CTB
Subject:	RE: Parcel 105729100002 - Strear Dirt Farm DRMS Application Adequacy 1

Received, thank you.

#### Jan Warwick

Deputy Clerk to the Board Weld County 1150 O Street Greeley, CO 80631 tel: 970-400-4217



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From: Kyle Regan <Kyler@civilresources.com>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 2:57 PM
To: CTB <CTB@co.weld.co.us>
Subject: Parcel 105729100002 - Strear Dirt Farm DRMS Application Adequacy 1

Caution: This email originated from outside of Weld County Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

Can you please add the attached adequacy review response to the Strear Dirt Farm DRMS application (m-2024-037) posted for public review. (Parcel #105729100002).

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Thanks,

Kyle Regan (m) 408.930.2544 ; (o) 303.833.1416 ext 10 KyleR@civilresources.com Civil Resources, LLC.

# PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (Per Title Commitment No. 1552019)

All that part of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West of the 66th P.M., Weld County, Colorado, lying East and South of the right of way of the Farmers Independent Ditch.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM that portion as conveyed to The County of Weld by Quit Claim Deed dated August 7, 1902 and recorded August 12, 1902 in Book 163 at Page 225, described as follows: A strip of land 30 feet in Width off the entire East side of Section 29, in Township 4 North, of Range 66 West of the 6th P.M. and

EXCEPTING THEREFROM that portion as conveyed to the County of Weld by Warranty Deed dated November 1, 2013 and recorded December 4, 2013 as Reception No. 3981840, described as follows: A parcel of land, located in the Northeast one-quarter of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, County of Weld, State of Colorado, said parcel being a portion of that deed filed in the Weld County Clerks and Recorder's Office under Reception No. 2312821 and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West and described as shown and is based on a grid bearing of the North line of said Northeast one-quarter as bearing S89'48'47"W a distance of 1328.87 feet to the East one-sixteenth corner of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West also described as shown; Thence S00°26'40"E along the East line of said Northeast one-quarter a distance of 41.84 feet; Thence departing said line S89'33'20"W to a point on the existing westerly right-of-way line of Weld County Road 29 a distance of 30.00 feet, also being a point on the existing southerly line of the Farmers Independent Ditch and being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Thence \$00°26'40"E along said westerly right—of—way line a distance of 82.68 feet; Thence \$70°00'50"W a distance of 169.47 feet;

Thence N84'09'12"E a distance of 96.10 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING

Thence N18'59'11"W a distance of 64.42 feet; Thence S73'41'24"W a distance of 58.84 feet;

Thence S85'35'38"W to a point on the existing southerly line of the Farmers Independent Ditch a distance of 146.87 feet; Thence along said existing southerly line of the Farmers Independent Ditch the following three (3) courses: Thence N60'12'32"E a distance of 25.22 feet to a point on a curve to the right; Thence 280.39 feet along the arc of said curve whose radius is 670.93 feet, central angle is 23'56'41" and whose chord bears N72'10'55"E a distance of 278.36 feet;

# TITLE COMMITMENT NOTE

This survey does not constitute a title search by Lat40, Inc. to determine ownership or easements of record. For all information regarding easements, rights—of—way and records of title, Lat40, Inc. relied upon Title Commitment No. 1552019, having a commitment date of January 7, 2022 at 8:00 am as issued by Stewart Title Guaranty Company to delineate the aforesaid information.

# SURVEYOR'S STATEMENT

I, Kyle E. Rutz, a Colorado Licensed Professional Land Surveyor, do hereby state that this Improvement Survey Plat was prepared from an actual survey under my personal supervision, that the monumentation as indicated hereon was found or set as shown, and that the foregoing plat is an accurate representation thereof, all this to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Kyle E. Rutz-On behalf of Lat40°, Inc. Colorado Licensed Professional Land Surveyor No. 38307

### SURVEY NOTES:

1. Field work completed on August 1, 2024.

2. Total area surveyed: ±276.98 Acres

3. Property Address (Per Title Commitment No. 1552019): 19521 County Road 29 and 19487 County Road 29, Platteville, CO 80651
4. Property may be subject to blanket type surface use agreements, leases, easements and rights-of-way that are not

specifically defined. 5. Oil and Gas Facilities may be subject to setbacks as set forth in Weld County Code 23-4-700.

6. BASIS OF BEARINGS AND LINEAL UNIT DEFINITION:

Assuming the South line of the Southeast Quarter of Section 29, T.4N., R.66W., as monumented by a #6 rebar with an illegible 2.5"" aluminum cap at the East end and a 2.25" pipe with a 3.25" aluminum cap stamped LS 16847 at the West end, as bearing South 89°22'47" West, being a Grid Bearing of the Colorado State Plane Coordinate System, North Zone, North American Datum 1983, a distance of 2653.54' feet with all other bearings contained herein relative thereto.

The lineal dimensions as contained herein are based upon the "U.S. Survey Foot."

7. According to Colorado law, you must commence any legal action based upon any defect in this survey within three years after you discover such defect. In no event, may any action based upon any defect in this survey be commenced more than ten years after the date of the certificate shown hereon. (13-80-105 C.R.S.)

8. The Farmer's Independent Ditch is described in the Condemnation Proceedings between The Farmers Independent Ditch Company (Petitioner) and John Evans, L H Eicholtz and the unknown heirs of H. A. Gray deceased (Respondents) recorded March 23, 1880 in Book 23 Pages 208—217 "a piece or parcel of land sixty feet in width, being thirty feet on each side of the center of said ditch... said land being described as follows to wit".

Quit—Claim Deed recorded April 5, 1897 at Reception No. 63386 later conveyed from W. J. Caesar to The Farmers Independent Ditch Company "A strip of land sixty feet in width for a right of way... as the said canal is now located, operated and constructed".

The location of ditch right of way shown hereon is based on the position of the ditch as is now exists.

9. The following note summarizes three original conveyances from Dickinson in Section 29, T.4N., R.66W.:

I. The parcel originally conveyed from Dickinson to Butler in Special Warranty Deed recorded February 28, 1906 at Reception No. 108687 is described by metes and bounds "Excepting from the above described land, a strip of land 60 feet wide along the east and south east sides of above described tract as heretofore conveyed by condemnation proceedings to the Farmers' Independent Ditch Company".

As referenced by Land Survey Plat of the Subject Property recorded April 29, 2022 at Reception No. 4822792, the parcel in the Bargain and Sale Deed recorded April 26, 2016 at Reception No. 4198462 is described by Metes and Bounds, omitting the exception clause in the original conveyance.

II. Similarly to I, the parcel originally conveyed from Dickinson to Wheeler in Special Warranty Deed recorded March 27, 1906 at Reception No. 109384 is described by metes and bounds "Excepting and reserving from this conveyance a strip of ground 60 feet in width on the east and south sides of the above described property, which has heretofore been conveyed by condemnation proceedings as a right of way for The Farmers' Independent Ditch Company's Ditch".

As referenced by Land Survey Plat of the Subject Property recorded April 29, 2022 at Reception No. 4822792, the Plat of Lot D, RECX14—0138 recorded May 12, 2015 at Reception No. 4106619 depicts the easterly boundary as the centerline of The Farmer's Independent Ditch, not the metes and bounds in the original conveyance, and omitting the exception clause in the original conveyance.

III. The Subject Property originally conveyed from Dickinson to Clark and Gilcrest in Special Warranty Deed recorded October 15, 1909 at Reception No. 146284 is described as "All that part of Section 29, Township 4 North of Range 66 West, which lies on the East and South side of the right of way of the ditch known as the Farmers Independent Ditch".

Lat40 does not accept the position of the property line as shown on Land Survey Plat 4822792 but accepts the south and east right of way line of the ditch as measured 30' from the centerline of the ditch as it now exists.



# EXHIBIT A – LEGAL DESCRIPTION

This information provided in this Exhibit is intended to satisfy the requirements outlined in Section 6.4.1 of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board Construction Material Rules and Regulations:

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION-PARCEL 1 (Parcel # 105729100002)

Part of the Northeast <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and Part of the South <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of Section 29 Township 4 North Range 66W of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., East of the Farmers Independent Ditch. Total Acres 276.7

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION-PARCEL 2 (Parcel # 105729000021)

Part of the Northeast ¼ of Section 29 Township 4 North Range 66W of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Beging 2461.60' South and 30' West of the Northeast Corner of Section 29 Continue South 100.20' then West 116.75' then North 100.20' then East 116.75' to the Beginning.Total Acres 0.30.

TOTAL PERMIT BOUNDARY AREA

277.0 ACRES (+/-)

Site Access:

40°16'31.79"N 104°48'24.49"W





PROPERTY AND STRUCTURE OWNERS WITHIN 200' OF PERMIT BOUNDARY MAILING ADDRESS 13864 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 8301 E PRENTICE AVE STE 100, GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111 13965 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 20028 COUNTY ROAD 29, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 1150 O ST. GREELEY, CO 80631 14057 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 13434 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 19644 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 19592 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 19500 COUNTY ROAD 29, GILCREST, CO 80651 2055 1ST AVE, GREELEY, CO 80631 2055 1ST AVE, GREELEY, CO 80631 304 8TH ST. GILCREST, CO 80623 PO BOX 235, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 PO BOX 949, JOHNSTOWN, CO 80534 675 ORCHARD AVE, SILT, CO 81652 2141 72 AVE CT, GREELEY, CO 80634 2055 1ST AVE, GREELEY, CO 80631 14460 COUNTY ROAD 40, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 14110 BRIGHTON ROAD, CO 80601 PX BOX 2400 MD 46-4, TULSA, OK 74102 PX BOX 2400 MD 46-4, TULSA, OK 74102 5429 TAMARAC ST, DENVER, CO 80238 5430 TAMARAC ST, DENVER, CO 80238 3209 W 28TH ST. GREELEY, CO 80634 13434 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 13434 COUNTY ROAD 42, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 PX BOX 2400 MD 46-4, TULSA, OK 74102 3005 W 29TH ST. GREELEY, CO 80631 1633 S COUNTY ROAD 21, LOVELAND CO 80537 2235 2ND AVE. GREELEY, CO 80631 1111 H ST. GREELEY, CO 80631 500 COOPERATIVE WAY, BRIGHTON, CO 80603

STRUCTURE (Y/N)

(Y) DITCH LATERAL

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY

(Y) FENCE, GATE, HOUSE

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY

(Y) PONDS, BUILDING

(Y) WATER LINES

(N)

(N)

(N)

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY, OUTBUILDING

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY, OUTBUILDING

(Y) DITCH LATERAL AND PUMP HOUSES

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY, OUTBUILDING

(Y) HOUSE, DRIVEWAY, OUTBUILDING

(Y) WELD COUNTY ROAD 29, 4TH AVE

(Y) BUILDING, FENCE, CONCRETE PAD

(Y) DITCH LATERAL AND PUMP HOUSES

(Y) FARMERS INDEPENDENT DITCH

(Y) WELD COUNTY ROAD 44 AND 42

(Y) OVERHEAD POWER LINES

(Y) OIL AND GAS WELLS

(Y) GAS FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES

(Y) GAS FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES

(Y) NATURAL GAS COMPRESSOR STATION, GAS LINES

- PROPOSED PERMIT BOUNDARY
- ——— — — 200-FOOT BUFFER FROM PERMIT BOUNDARY
  - PROPOSED MINE LIMIT
  - PROPOSED MAJOR CONTOUR
  - PROPOSED MINOR CONTOUR
  - EXISTING BARBED WIRE FENCE
  - EXISTING EDGE OF PAVEMENT
  - EXISTING EASEMENT
  - SECTION LINE
  - EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
  - EXISTING GAS LINE
  - EXISTING WATER LINE
  - EXISTING BURIED ELECTRICAL
  - EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL
  - EXISTING FIBER OPTIC
  - WATERWAY
  - MONITORING WELLS
  - ELECTRICAL BOX
  - OVERHEAD ELECTRIC POLE
  - WATER LINE MARKER
  - EXISTING DIRT/GRAVEL ROAD
  - BRESSER SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 3 % SLOPES
  - JULESBERG SANDY LOAM, 0 TO 10 % SLOPES
  - JULESBERG SANDY LOAM, 1 TO 3 % SLOPES



NAME Kyle S. Regan P.G.

QUALIFIED AS A PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST AS DEFINED BY COLORADO STATUTE.

JUNE 28, 2024

NORTH ( IN FEET) Know what's **below**. **Call** before you dig.

6
CIVIL RES OURCES
8308 COLORADO BOULEVARD SUITE 200
FIRESTONE, CO 80504 303.833.1416 WWW.CIVILRESOURCES.COM
DAVID AND KAYLEEN HUNT 14460 WCR 40 PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651
970.534.0917 (p) CONTACT: DAVID HUNT
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HUNT 112 P D CO
RMS WEL
REVISIONS
NO. DESCRIPTION DATE
DESIGNED BY: <u>KSR</u> DATE: <u>9/19/2024</u> DRAWN BY: <u>KSR</u> SCALE <u>AS NOTED</u> CHECKED BY: ARR AS NOTED
JOB NO.: _307.001.06 DWG NAME:DRMS-MAPS.DWG
EXISTING
CONDITIONS
SHEET: C-1



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PROPOSED PERMIT BOUNDARY
200-FOOT BUFFER FROM PERMIT BOUNDARY
PROPOSED MINE LIMIT
PROPOSED MAJOR CONTOUR
PROPOSED MINOR CONTOUR
EXISTING BARBED WIRE FENCE
EXISTING EDGE OF PAVEMENT
EXISTING EASEMENT
SECTION LINE
EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
EXISTING GAS LINE
EXISTING WATER LINE
EXISTING BURIED ELECTRICAL
EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL
EXISTING FIBER OPTIC
WATERWAY
MONITORING WELLS
ELECTRICAL BOX
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC POLE
STOCKPILE AREA
EXISTING DIRT/GRAVEL ROAD
PROPOSED DIRT ROAD

![](_page_15_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_7.jpeg)

NAME Kyle S. Regan P.G. DATE QUALIFIED AS A PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST AS DEFINED BY COLORADO STATUTE.

![](_page_15_Picture_9.jpeg)

This information provided in this Exhibit is intended to satisfy the requirements outlined in Section 6.4.4 of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board Construction Material Rules and Regulations:

# (a) Description of the method(s) of mining to be employed in each stage of the operation as related to any surface disturbance on affected lands;

The proposed amendment area includes a significant deposit of harvestable overburden used for reclamation soil in oil and gas operations located west of the Town of Gilcrest in Weld County. The site is located east of the Farmers Independent Ditch, south of Weld County Road 42, north of Weld County Road 40 and west of Weld County Road 29. The permit boundary / affected land boundary will include 277.0 acres +/-.

# **Existing Conditions and Site Preparation:**

# **Existing Conditions**

The proposed mining area is actively being farmed as irrigated farm land.

# Site Preparation

Very little site preparation is required, stripping the topsoil and stockpiling on the perimeter of the site.

# Mining:

**North Cell** – to be stripped 4-feet, stockpiled and sold. The cell will be mined at 3:1 horizontal to vertical side slopes to approximately 4-feet below existing grade. **South Cell** – to be stripped 0 to 4-feet, stockpiled and sold. Mining will start in the northeast and will progress to the southwest ending closest to the access. The cell will be mined along the southwest at a 3:1 horizontal to vertical side slope approximately 4-feet below existing grade. The cell will be feathered to existing grade along the eastern side of the site to allow for historical drainage patterns.

The operator will develop and comply with a Stormwater Management Plan and Spill, Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Plan. The operator will notify the Division of Mine Safety and Reclamation in the event of a reportable spill.

# Processing:

All material mined under this proposed application will be transported by excavator, loader or haul truck to the stockpile area.

# Stockpiling:

Topsoil and overburden stockpiles that remain dormant for fourteen (14) days shall be roughened, mulched, or tackified to stabilize them. Topsoil and overburden stockpiles

that remain dormant for more than one-hundred and eighty (180) days shall be seeded with the Weld County upland seed mixture described in Exhibit E (Reclamation Plan).

# Import Material:

The Miner may import material from and export material to other sites. The applicant is aware that in accordance with Rule 3.1.5(9) of the Construction Material Rules and Regulations, if any offsite material is used as backfill, a notarized letter will be submitted to the Division indicating the materials are inert. The applicant will supply such a letter to the Division if, at the time of Reclamation, the applicant intends to use off-site material as backfill.

# (b) Earthmoving;

Topsoil and overburden will be stripped with bulldozers, loaders or excavators and stockpiled near the active mine phase. The mined area will be reclaimed to 4-feet below existing grade and tie into existing grade on the perimeter of the mine. This excavation will be amended and planted with crops or dryland native grasses. Historic drainage patterns will be maintained.

# (c) All water diversions and impoundments; and

There will no dewatering or water impoundments onsite.

# (d) The size of area(s) to be worked at any one time.

Typically, up to 10 acres will be actively mined at any one time.

# (e) An approximate timetable to describe the mining operation. The timetable is for the purpose of establishing the relationship between mining and reclamation during the different phases of a mining operation.

The Operator anticipates that mining will commence as soon as all permits are in place. The Operator anticipates extracting approximately 100,000 tons of reclamation soil per year, however, production rates may vary based on market demands.

# Timetable for Mining and Reclamation

There is approximately 1,413,000 tons of soil material which will provide 14 years of reserves. The North Cell contains approximately 114,000 tons of material which is anticipated to take approximately 1 year to mine after which unsalable material (sand and overburden) from the South Cell will be utilized to reclaim the North Cell back to native grade.

Reclamation will begin immediately after mining is complete. When possible, concurrent reclamation practices will be used to minimize site disturbance and to limit material handling to the greatest extent possible. Please refer to the Mining Plan Map in Exhibit C for phase areas to be mined, locations and areas.

# (f) Use Mining Plan Map in conjunction with narrative to present:

# (i.) Nature, depth and thickness of the deposit and thickness and type of overburden to be removed

The depth of soil to be mined is 4 feet consisting mainly of silty sand.

# (ii.) Nature of the stratum immediately beneath the material to be mined in sedimentary deposits

The site is located approximately 15 miles east of the foothills of the Colorado Front Range on the western flank of the Denver Structural Basin. The basin is a downwarp of sedimentary strata that tends north-northwest, parallel to the mountain front. In the project area, the sedimentary bed dips gently eastward toward the axis of the basin east of the site. Based on regional geologic mapping (Colton, 1978), the near surface bedrock in the project area is the Paleocene and Upper Cretaceous Denver and Arapahoe Formations. The bedrock is overlain by upper Pleistocene and Holocene (Quarternary age) gravel deposits and eolian (wind blown) overburden soils. The gravel deposits exist primarily within the Broadway Alluvium deposit. The bedrock unit consists mainly of claystone and may contain lenses of siltstone and sandstone.

# (g) Identify the primary and secondary commodities to be mined/extracted and describe the intended use.

The primary commodities are reclamation fill; intended for construction materials.

# (h) Name and describe the intended use of all expected incidental products to be mined/extracted by the proposed operation.

There are no expected incidental products to be mined.

(i) Specify if explosives will be used in conjunction with the mining (or reclamation)

No explosive material will be used on-site.

(j) Specify the dimensions of any existing or proposed roads that will be used for the mining operation. Describe any improvements necessary on existing roads and the specifications to be used in the construction of new roads. New or improved roads must be included as part of the affected lands and permitted acreage. Affected land shall not include off-site roads which existed prior to the date on which notice was given or permit application was made to the office and which were constructed for purposes unrelated to the proposed mining operation and which will not be substantially upgraded to support the mining operation. Describe any associated drainage and runoff conveyance structures to include sufficient information to evaluate structure sizing. A temporary dirt road will be constructed at the Site to allow access through the existing fields. The road will be approximately twenty-four (24) feet wide and will consist of clearing and grubbing the existing field and compacting the soil. The road will be reclaimed from north to south as the mining operation progresses. The road will be constructed at existing grade and will not require any drainage or runoff conveyance structures.

This information provided in this Exhibit is intended to satisfy the requirements outlined in Section 6.4.5 of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board Construction Material Rules and Regulations: The proposed mining and reclamation plan focuses on minimizing the ecological impacts of mining, minimizing the length of time of impact, and maximizing long-term benefits.

<u>North Cell</u>– mined in year one into year two and reclaimed concurrent with mining South Cell.

**South Cell** – mined in year two through fourteen and reclaimed concurrently.

(a) A description of the type(s) of reclamation the Operator proposes to achieve in the reclamation of the affected land, why each was chosen, the amount of acreage accorded to each, and a general discussion of methods of reclamation as related to the mechanics of earthmoving;

The mined area will be reclaimed to 4-feet below existing grade and tie into existing grade on the perimeter of the mine. The mine will include a 20-foot buffer around the perimeter of the excavation.

The North Cell will be excavated at a 3 to 1 horizontal to vertical slope and will be backfilled back to native grade with overburden or sand from the South Pit.

The South Cell will be excavated down at a 3 to1 horizontal to vertical slope on the southwest side, along with feathering grades back into existing on the east by Weld County Road 29.

All excavation will be amended and planted with crops or dryland native grasses. Historic drainage patterns will be maintained. Refer to Exhibit F for the acreages and additional details.

## Earthmoving

The soil amendment will be placed by a loader and generally graded with a blade. All grading will be done in a manner that controls erosion and siltation of the affected lands, to protect areas outside of the affected land from slides and other damage. In addition, all backfilling and grading will be completed as soon as feasible after the mining process. All disturbed areas will be regraded and smoothed to a finished grade that is suitable for revegetation of the final land use. See attached mining plan for historic and proposed grades.

As noted previously, the area will be reclaimed as mining commences. Finish grading, topsoil/soil amendment placement and seeding will occur once the resource is completely removed per phase.

# (b) A comparison of the proposed post-mining land use to other land uses in the vicinity and to adopted state and local land use plans and programs.

Once the site is reclaimed it can returned to being farmed.

(c) A description of how the Reclamation Plan will be implemented to meet each applicable requirement of Section 3.1.

The Operator will carry reclamation to completion with reasonable diligence. Reclamation will be completed within one to two years from completion of mining, but not more than five years from the date the Operator informs the Board or Office that such phase has commenced.

**Section 3.1.5 Reclamation Measures Material Handling**: Grading will be performed to help control erosion and siltation of the affected lands through phased mining, implementing good operation techniques to handle material as little as possible, and vegetation of stockpiles remaining in place for more than one growing season. Although the use of erosion protection devices is not anticipated, if deemed necessary by the operator at the time of excavation, silt fence and haybale dams will be installed to prevent erosion. Backfilling and grading will be completed as soon as feasible after the mining process is complete.

Maximum slopes and slope combinations will be compatible with the configuration of surrounding conditions and selected land use. Mining will occur at a slope that is stable. The site will be reclaimed to grades 0 to 4 feet below pre-mining elevations.

The operator will backfill using fill material generated on-site, or imported inert fill generated outside the permit area. If any inert off-site material is used as backfill, a notarized letter will be submitted to the Division as required by Section 3.1.5(9) of the MLRB Construction Material Rules and Regulations.

It is not anticipated that mining will uncover any refuse or acid-forming or toxic producing materials, however if any such materials are encountered the operator will take precaution to handle the materials in a manner that will control unsightliness and protect the drainage system.

Drill or auger holes that are part of the mining operation shall be plugged with noncombustible material, which shall prevent harmful or polluting drainage. Any test pits, soil boring holes, or monitoring wells not located within the mine excavation limits will be plugged as soon as it can be confirmed that they are no longer needed for the operation.

Mined material to be disposed of within the affected area will be handled in such a manner so as to prevent any unauthorized release of pollutants to the surface drainage system. No unauthorized release of pollutants to groundwater shall occur from any materials mined, handled or disposed of within the permit area.

**Section 3.1.6 Water-General Requirements:** The Operator will comply with applicable Colorado water laws governing injury to existing water rights and with applicable state and federal water quality and dredge and fill laws and regulations.

The operator will develop and comply with a stormwater management plan and will use best management practices (BMPs) to ensure groundwater and surface water are protected to the greatest possible extent. BMPs include schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution in runoff from the site.

**Section 3.1.7 Groundwater - Specific Requirements:** The Operator will comply with the applicable standards and conditions for classified and unclassified groundwater. Groundwater will not be exposed or dewatered.

**Section 3.1.8 Wildlife:** The mining and reclamation plans have been designed to account for the safety and protection of wildlife on the mine site. The Operator will use concurrent reclamation methods to minimize the impact on wildlife. The proposed reclamation plan may improve wildlife habitat. The proposed plantings will create improved cover, foraging, roosting, and nesting areas for wildlife. Control and/or removal of noxious and weedy species during the project and the replacement of desirable graminoid species during reclamation will result in enhancement of wildlife habitat on the project site.

**Section 3.1.9 Topsoiling:** Three inches of topsoil will be removed and segregated from other spoil. The topsoil will be blended with manure and used for reclamation. Topsoil stockpiles shall be stored in places and configurations to minimize erosion and located in areas separate from salable product where disturbance by ongoing mining operations will be minimized. Once stockpiled, topsoil shall be rehandled as little as possible. Stockpiles that remain dormant for fourteen (14) days shall be roughened, mulched, or tackified to stabilize them. Stockpiles that remain dormant for more than one-hundred and eighty (180) days shall be seeded with the seed mixture described in subsection (f).

**Section 3.1.10 Revegetation**: In those areas where revegetation is part of the reclamation plan, the land shall be revegetated in a manner that establishes a diverse, effective, and long-lasting vegetative cover. The proposed seed-mix or plantings for reclamation are outlined on the Reclamation Plan included in Exhibit F of this application. The quarter section of land has a sprinkler and irrigation water and this infrastructure will remain and be utilized for irrigation purposes.

*Section 3.1.11 Buildings and Structures*: Please refer to the enclosed Reclamation Plan included in Exhibit F.

**Section 3.1.12 Signs and Markers**: The Operator will post appropriate signage at the entrance to the mine site. The permit area will be marked by existing fencing, or proximity to existing County roads.

(d) Plans for topsoil segregation, preservation and replacement; for stabilization, compaction and grading of spoil; and for revegetation.

Topsoil will be removed and segregated from other spoils. Topsoil not needed for reclamation may be sold or removed from the site. For reclamation, topsoil will be replaced by a scraper and generally graded with a blade. Grading shall be done in a manner that controls erosion and siltation of the affected land and protects areas outside

the affected land from damage. In addition, backfilling and grading shall be completed as soon as feasible after the mining process.

Final grading will create a final topography that is appropriate for ultimate land use. For example, grades on the site will maintain historic drainage. Topsoil will be uniformly placed and spread on areas disturbed by the mining. The minimum thickness shall be 3 inches above the surrounding excavated grade, consistent with existing topsoil depths onsite. The topsoil shall be keyed to the underlying and surrounding material by the use of harrows, rollers or other equipment suitable for the purpose. The owner is as active farmer in the area and has the ability to maintain and ensure the reclaimed land will be suitable for the proposed use.

The Operator plans to plant crops for use in their feed lot operation. In the event crops are not used, areas where perennial seed revegetation is part of the reclamation plan, the Operator will revegetate the land in such a manner so as to establish a diverse, effective, and long-lasting vegetative cover that is capable of self-regeneration without continued dependence on irrigation or fertilizer and is at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the surrounding area. Seed will be drilled and mulched. The Operator owns a sufficient amount of irrigation water to establish an effective ground cover. In the event a dryland crop is utilized the Operator will more than likely continue to irrigate the ground allowing for more production for use in feedlot operations. The Operator currently uses this method on their other Weld County farms.

The revegetation seeding and plant list on the Reclamation Plan Map contains the preferred species of grasses, shrubs and trees to be planted.

Seeding will take place once final grading and replacement of topsoil have been completed. Timing of seeding will be consistent with standard horticultural practice for dryland applications - generally between late September and the middle of April to ensure there is adequate moisture for germination.

## (e) A plan or schedule indicating how and when reclamation will be implemented. Include:

*i.* An estimate of the periods of time which will be required for the various stages or phases of reclamation.

Please refer to the Timetable for Mining and Reclamation in Section (e) of Exhibit D.

*ii.* A description of the size and location of each area to be reclaimed during each phase.

Please refer to the Reclamation Plan Map (Exhibit F).

*iii.* Outlining the sequence in which each stage or phase of reclamation will be carried out.

Please refer to the Timetable for Mining and Reclamation in Section (e) of Exhibit D.

(f) A description of:

*i. Final grading – maximum anticipated slope gradient or expected ranges thereof;* The slopes will range from 0.5% to 2% and match historic grade.

# *ii.* Seeding – types, mixtures, quantities and time of application;

Please refer to the Reclamation Plan Map for the list of plant materials and seeds to be utilized and the tables below. The operator will seed during the appropriate season to ensure adequate moisture for germination and implement weed controls to allow the grasses/crops to successfully establish.

## Primary Seed Mix:

Alfalfa – Seeding Rate – 20 pounds per acre

### Alternate Seed Mix:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LBS
(VARIETY)		PER/ACRE
SAND BLUESTEM	(CHAMP, CHET)	1
SAND LOVEGRASS	(BEND, NATIVE, NE27)	2.5
INDIAN RICEGRASS	(NEZPAR, RIMROCK)	3
PRAIRIE SANDREED	(GOSHEN)	0.75
GREEN NEEDLEGRASS	(LODORM)	1.5
LITTLE BLUESTEM	(BLAZE, CIMARRON, CAMPER)	0.75
YELLOW INDIANGRASS	(CHEYENNE, HOLT, SCOUT)	0.5
SWITCHGRASS	(BLACKWELL, NEBRASKA 28)	1.5
SAND DROPSEED		0.5
	TOTAL LBS PER ACRE:	12.00

# *iii.* Fertilization – types, mixtures, quantities, and time of application;

The type and application rate of fertilizer shall be determined based on a soil test at the time of final reclamation.

# iv. Revegetation – types of trees, shrubs, etc.; and

Please refer to the letter discussing the proposed reclamation in more depth.

v. Topsoiling – specify anticipated minimum depth or range of depths for those areas where topsoil will be replaced.

Topsoil will be uniformly placed and spread on all areas disturbed by the mining. The minimum thickness shall be 3 inches above the surrounding excavated grade including soil amendments and manure application.

Manure application at 5 tons per acre. Using a conversion of 1.5 tons per cubic yard the total application is 1,111 tons or approximately 741 cubic yards cross the site. Manure to be hauled in from adjacent feedlot to the west of the Site.

# WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The area to be mined has historically been managed via mechanical methods such as mowing or tillage and herbicide is not typically used on the farm. Hunt Farms has been successful in keeping noxious weeds controlled with the main problematic weed being "pigweed".

Hunt Farms has a full-time weed manager on staff as they currently irrigate hundreds of acres for their associated operations. Hunt Farms has all the necessary equipment in house to perform weed management.

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

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<u>Primary Seed Mix:</u> Alfalfa - Seeding Rate - 20 pounds per acre

# Alternate Seed Mix:

NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LBS
		PER/ACRE
ESTEM	(CHAMP, CHET)	1
EGRASS	(BEND, NATIVE, NE27)	2.5
CEGRASS	(NEZPAR, RIMROCK)	3
ANDREED	(GOSHEN)	0.75
EDLEGRASS	(LODORM)	1.5
JESTEM	(BLAZE, CIMARRON, CAMPER)	0.75
NDIANGRASS	(CHEYENNE, HOLT, SCOUT)	0.5
RASS	(BLACKWELL, NEBRASKA 28)	1.5
PSEED		0.5
	TOTAL LBS PER ACRE: 12.00	

	PREPARED	BY:
Rofl 4	1	

NAME Kyle S. Regan P.G. 07/02/2024 QUALIFIED AS A PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST AS DEFINED BY COLORADO STATUTE.

![](_page_26_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_10.jpeg)

CIVIL RES OURCES 8308 COLORADO BOULEVARD SUITE 200 FIRESTONE, CO 80504 303.833.1416 WWW.CIVILRESOURCES.COM DAVID AND KAYLEEN HUNT 14460 WCR 40 PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651 970.534.0917 (p) CONTACT: DAVID HUNT **APPLICATION** COLORADO  $\sim$ # MINE PERMIT DIRT COUNTY, HUNT  $\sim$ H WELD DRMS REVISIONS DESCRIPTION DATE DESIGNED BY: KSR DATE: 9/20/2024 DRAWN BY: <u>KSR</u> SCALE<u>AS NOTED</u> CHECKED BY: ARR AS NOTED JOB NO.: 307.001.06 DWG NAME:DRMS-MAPS.DWG RECLAMATION PLAN SHEET: F-1

This information provided in this Exhibit is intended to satisfy the requirements outlined in Section 6.4.7 of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board Construction Material Rules and Regulations:

- (a) Locate on the map (Exhibit C) tributary water courses, wells, springs, stock water ponds, reservoirs and ditches
   Please refer to Exhibit C for locations of water courses, ditches and well permit in close proximity to the site, including wells, springs, stock water ponds, reservoirs and ditches.
- (b) Identify all known aquifers The Site is underlain by the South Platte River alluvial aquifer.
- (c) Show how water from dewatering operations or runoff from disturbed areas, piled material and operating surfaces will be managed to protect against pollution of either surface or groundwater both during and after the operation.

Please refer to the Mining Plan Map in Exhibit C of this application.

The North Cell will drain internally during the active mine phase and any trapped precipitation will be pumped to an approved discharge point. After reclamation, the North Cell will be filled to historic grade and follow historic drainage patterns.

The South Cell will be mined and reclaimed in a matter that preserves historic drainage patterns at the Site mainly flowing from west to east. Disturbed area, stockpiles and operating surfaces will be managed with best management practices to be described under a Stormwater Management Plan operating in concordance with a CDPHE discharge permit.

(d) Estimate project water requirements including flow rates and annual volumes for the development, mining and reclamation phases of the project.

Projected Use And Consumption: There will be no exposed groundwater.

- (e) Indicate the projected amounts of the water sources to supply project water requirements. There will be no exposed groundwater.
- (f) Affirmatively state that the Applicant has acquired or applied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Water Quality Control Division The Operator will apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the Water Quality Control Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prior to discharging water from the site.

The information provided in this Exhibit is intended to satisfy the requirements outlined in Section 6.4.10 of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board Construction Material Rules and Regulations:

# (a) Description of present vegetation types including estimates of cover and height of principal species in each life-form represented;

The current site is covered by irrigated farmland.

## (b) Relationship of present vegetation to soil types;

The farm grasses are compatible with the current soil type.

# (c) Estimates of annual production and carrying capacity if the choice for reclamation is for range or agriculture.

The area is proposed to be reclaimed as fallow ground or irrigated crops. Estimated annual production is 27 tons of corn silage per acre which is consistent with current harvests.

# MEMORANDUM

TO: DRMS Hunt Dirt Mine #2, File M-2024-037

FROM: Civil Resources, LLC

DATE: September 23, 2024

RE: Reclamation attachment and qualifications

This memorandum summarizes the proposed reclamation for the Hunt Dirt Mine #2 and the operators ability to reclaim the site to irrigated crop land. This memorandum is intended to supplement Exhibit E (Reclamation Plan).

#### Existing Use

The farm is currently irrigated crop land producing alfalfa, corn silage and pasture grass. The operator/applicant owns Hunt Farms which has grown from operating two circles to successfully owning and operating thirteen irrigation systems on over 1,200 acres of Weld County farmland over the last thirty years. Hunt Family Farms also pastures and feeds 7,000 head of beef cattle through its operations, utilizing the crops, aftermath, and irrigated pastures from the irrigated farms to supply feed for its cattle operations. Mr. Hunt holds a degree in agronomy and has applied techniques to increase crop yield across Hunt Farms. Using creative solutions to utilize irrigation water and varying crops, Hunt Farms is a forward thinking irrigator along the historic US Highway 85 corridor in Weld County.

#### Proposed Use

The operator plans to excavate/harvest the upper soils and sell those as a reclamation product across Weld County. This will provide nutrient rich soils for reclaimed sites and will improve these sites to allow for crop development.

The operator will segregate a minimum of 3-inches of topsoil and mix that with manure from a near-by (adjacent) feed lot to be applied to the fields in-turn promoting plant growth on these deep sandy loam soils. The operator owns and operates a feed lot and this material is a byproduct of raising cattle. These uses are appropriate for the development of irrigated crops and a reclaimed use of the manure. For example, sod farms continuously remove the top organic layer and continue to replant the sod. The sod could be considered a cover crop that creates organic matter each season. This will be very similar to the reclaimed use of hunt Dirt Mine #2 except that Hunt's is a one-time operation. The proposed mining area also has native water rights in conjunction with an existing sprinkler system. The sprinkler will not be removed during mining and once the soil is ready for planting it will be irrigated which will further ensure the success of a cover crop. The operator proposes to plant alfalfa, legumes, or other cover crops to promote growth and rebuild the reclaimed area.

#### **Background Information**

The operator has also discussed the proposed reclamation with various agronomists and attached to this memo is a background data sheet discussing manure use and proposed cover crops for reclamation. The operator is currently implementing this reclamation technique on the WC 40 Soil Mine (M2021030) with success.

#### Attachments

Rebuilding Topsoil – Down to Earth Consulting LLC USDA Cover Crop Chart

![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)

# **REBUILDING TOPSOIL**

- 1. Soil test the area 0-12 " run a complete analysis
- 2. Add gypsum or lime to adjust PH if needed ( 6 to 7 ) then deep till
- 3. Apply manure and or compost or other organic matter in the fall and lightly till in
- 4. Plant cover crop ( such as rye, or beans etc.)
- 5. work cover crop into soil during the spring
- 6. repeat every fall

#### **Mineral Conditioners**

*Gypsum.* Gypsum has long been recognized for its benefits on high sodium-containing soils. Gypsum is a mineral with the chemical composition  $CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ . It occurs in nature as soft crystalline rock and varies in purity. Gypsum has been shown to displace exchangeable sodium from the cation exchange sites of soils high in sodium. With irrigation or dryland, gypsum can be used to reclaim saline areas or slick spots, soften and crumble alkali hard pans, supply calcium on low exchange capacity soils, and improve infiltration for some puddled soils. Gypsum is not recommended on soils containing native gypsum or areas irrigated with water containing abundant amounts of calcium and magnesium.

The amount of gypsum to apply depends on the purity of the gypsum and the quantity of sodium present in the soil. Actual rates should be based on a salt-alkali soil test. Application rates normally vary between 1 and 10 tons/acre. Gypsum applied at less than 500 pounds per acre will likely be of little benefit as a soil conditioner, but may work as a calcium or sulfur nutrient source.

Animal manure. Animal manures can be important contributors to soil organic matter levels as well as suppliers of various nutrients. Manure is largely composed of partially decomposed plant material plus a wide variety of organisms. Many of the organic compounds in manure are similar to those found in soil organic matter. An application of 10 tons/acre of manure would result in 0.5 to 2 tons of organic matter after decomposition by soil organisms. Manure, however, contains soluble salts which can be detrimental to soil physical properties and crop growth when added in high amounts, especially to arid soils.

Table 1. Approximate	C:N	ratios	of	organic	material
and soil microbes (3)					

Material	C:N Ratio
Crop Residues	
Alfalfa (young)	13:1
Clovers (mature)	20:1
Bluegrass	30:1
Corn Stalks	40:1
Straw (small grain)	80:1
Sewage Sludge	10-12:1
Cattle Manure	30:1
Peat Moss	58:1
Sawdust	
Hardwood	295: 1
Pine	729:1
Soil Microbes	
Bacteria	5:1
Actinomycetes	6:1
Fungi	10:1

Other organic conditioners. Other materials that can serve as soil conditioners include crop residues, compost, sewage sludges, green manure crops, and sawdust. The effectiveness of the material varies with the amount of material added and the C:N ratio. Sewage sludges may contain potentially harmful levels of heavy metals and other toxic materials and should be analyzed for these materials before using.

### Building New TopSoil

No Bare Soil:	Soil must always be covered with plants or plant litter	
Produce Organic Matter :	Rest groundcover from grazing, or grow green manure crops with minimum tillage	
Graze :	: Or slash the groundcover oeriodically. Use high stock densities for short periods to place organic matter bothinand on the	
	soil (root pruning and litter trampling). On pasture cropping land, this may include one or two in-crop graze periods. Green	
	manure crops should be lightly incorporated, although animal impact is the prefeerred option.	
Higher Biomass :	The higher the biomass and turnover of plants roots, the faster new topsoil will form	
Monitor Progress :	A composty smell indicates high levels of biological activity, particuly fungi. The activites of benefical soil microbes are	
	important for the formation of soil aggregates which give soil its structure, improve porosity and water-holding capacity.	
Soil Testing soil health :		
Can we Measure It ? :		
Cover Cron .		

Cover Crop :

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

V 3.0 February 2018

♦Add

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

David Hunt is applying for an MLRB permit to mine dirt at the project site. Site is within the southeast ¼ of section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian. The site is generally bounded on the south by WCR 40 and to the east by WCR 29. The project is located in Weld County, Colorado.

The proposed date of commencement is late 2024. The proposed future use of the land is cropland.

Additional information and tentative decision date may be obtained from the Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-3567, or at the Clerk to the Board of County commissioners, or the above-named applicant.

Comments must be in writing and must be received by the Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety by 4:00 p.m. on October 27th, 2024.

Please contact Andy Rodriguez with Civil Resources at (303) 833-1416 ex. 202 if you have any questions or comments regarding this application.

![](_page_34_Picture_6.jpeg)

August 5th, 2024

VIA: certified mail

#### **RE: Structure Owner Agreements**

Dear Structure Owner/Representative:

Hunt Farms plans to mine the property located in the northeast ¼ and Part of the South ½ of Section 29, Township 4 North, Range 66 West of the 6th Principal Meridian for overburden. The Division of Mine Reclamation and Safety Permit (DRMS) is M-2024-037, and the location is shown on the attached Figures. Hunt Farms plans to start mining in late 2024 or early 2025. Per the (DRMS) Hunt Farms is required to issue structure agreements to all structure owners within two-hundred feet of the mine boundary. There will be a 100-foot buffer from the perimeter of the mine and all utilities will not be affected. The miner intends to excavate below existing grade a maximum of two to three feet. There will be no negative impacts to the surrounding or adjacent structures.

![](_page_35_Figure_6.jpeg)

Please read the information attached and sign and return the agreement using the self-addressed stamped envelope. Should you require additional information please contact **Andy Rodriguez at 303 833 1416 x202.** 

Sincerely,

CIVIL RESOURCES, LLC

Andy Rodriguez, P.E. Civil Engineer

attachments: Structure Agreement An example Structure Agreement which meets the requirements of the Statutes is shown below.

# **Structure Agreement**

This letter has been provided to you as the owner of a structure on or within two hundred (200) feet of a proposed mine site. The State of Colorado, Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety ("Division") requires that where a mining operation will adversely affect the stability of any significant, valuable and permanent man-made structure located within two hundred (200) feet of the affected land, the Applicant shall either:

- a) Provide a notarized agreement between the Applicant and the Person(s) having an interest in the structure, that the Applicant is to provide compensation for any damage to the structure; or
- b) Where such an agreement cannot be reached, the Applicant shall provide an appropriate engineering evaluation that demonstrates that such structure shall not be damaged by activities occurring at the mining operation; or
- c) Where such structure is a utility, the Applicant may supply a notarized letter, on utility letterhead, from the owner(s) of the utility that the mining and reclamation activities, as proposed, will have "no negative effect" on their utility. (*Construction Materials Rule 6.3.12 and Rule 6.4.19 & Hard Rock/Metal Mining Rule 6.3.12 and Rule 6.4.20*)

The Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board ("Board") has determined that this form, if properly executed, represents an agreement that complies with Construction Materials Rule 6.3.12(a), Rule 6.4.19(a), and C.R.S. § 34-32.5-115(4)(e) and with Hard Rock/Metal Mining Rule 6.3.12(a), Rule 6.4.20(a), and C.R.S. § 34-32-115(4)(d). This form is for the sole purpose of ensuring compliance with the Rules and Regulations and shall not make the Board or Division a necessary party to any private civil lawsuit to enforce the terms of the agreement or create any enforcement obligations in the Board or the Division.

The following structures are located on or within 200 feet of the proposed affected area:

1.	Ponds
2.	Building
3.	
4.	
5.	
	(Please list additional structures on a separate page)

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The Ap	oplicant,	Hunt Fari	ทร	(print applicant/company na	.me),		
by	David Hunt		(print representative's name),	asMember(p	orint		
representative's title), does hereby certify thatwell AUGMENTATION SUBDISTRICT OF COW_(structure owner) shall							
be com	pensated for	r any dam	age from the proposed mining o	peration to the above listed structure(s)			
located on or within 200 feet of the proposed affected area described within Exhibit A, of the Reclamation							
Permit	Application	for	Strear Dirt Mine	(operation name	e),		
File Nu	umber M-202	24037					

This form has been approved by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board pursuant to its authority under the Colorado Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials and the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act for Hard Rock, Metal, and Designated Mining Operations. Any alteration or modification to this form shall result in voiding this form.

#### NOTARY FOR PERMIT APPLICANT

ACKNOWLEGED BY:	, 1
Applicant <u>Hunt Farms</u>	Representative Name David Hunt
Date August , 2024	_TitleMember
STATE OF <u>Colorado</u> )	
) ss. COUNTY OF <u>ILEI</u> )	
The foregoing was acknowledged before me th asas	is 9 day of August 2024, by of Hugt Forms
My C	ommission Expires: 1/1/10/28
STATE OF COLORADO	

# NOTARY FOR STRUCTURE OWNER

ACKNOWLEGED BY:
Structure Owner Raph T. Anders Name Ralph T. Anders
Date 09 17 2024 Title President
STATE OF Lobrado
COUNTY OF Weld ) ss.
The foregoing was acknowledged before me this 17th day of September 2024 by Longervanoy District
Jumpromer My Commission Expires: June 2.2027
Nøtary Public
LYNN KRAMER

![](_page_38_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)