

STATE OF
COLORADO

Girardi - DNR, Chris <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

M1994-081 Mortensen's Landscape & Irrigation

1 message

Brandon Garrison <brandongarrison39@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 7, 2025 at 12:08 PM

To: chris.girardi@state.co.us

Cc: Marcus Mortensen <mortensenmw@gmail.com>

Mr. Girardi,

Upon receiving our Peat Mine inspection report for permit M1994-081, conducted on September 6, 2024, we were astounded by the \$31,000.00 increase in our bond requirements, which we felt was largely egregious, and reached out to you by telephone. Once finally in contact with you to ask questions about this increase, we were told, several times, by yourself, to "don't do anything yet". There were no due dates or deadlines given, nor is there a due date anywhere within the inspection report received, so this notice of being "past due" is a bit of a surprise.

However, we did begin implementing action on the items cited in withing the report:

- Signage was placed at all possible entrances, with contact information and permit number as required.
- Peat stockpiles that were accidentally placed outside our boundaries were removed and cleared.
- After a search, property pins were located (via Davis Engineering) and we began marking the property boundaries with "T" posts. We are also looking into alternate methods, as a few of those posts have been removed and stolen.
- Weed control is one of the major details on the inspection report. We are working with county authorities and a local "QS Certified" agent on this issue, but it is difficult at this time, as it is winter. We will, however, submit a weed control plan as soon as possible.
- We will also be attempting to get "Parcel A" deleted from our permit, as we do NOT own that particular property, nor have access to it, nor "permission to enter". As far as we know, it is owned by the County of Alamosa at this time.
- We have also consolidated our "area of disturbance" to what we consider to be approximately one half of an acre, as reported in our annual report entered on December 20, 2024. We have not "reclaimed" outside of that area or seeded approved seed at this time, as again, it is winter. This is located in the same area that we have been mining sand out of since transference of ownership, which is the same location the previous ownership was in for the past 12 years. We believe, however, that past reports were "miss-located" on reports, perhaps due to "guessing" or non-use of satellite viewing, such as Google Maps. Our most recent report is accurate.
- We will be constructing a new "mining plan" in accordance to regulations, to show where and when we plan on reclaiming and/or moving current mining operations. We are doing this in new discussions with a "friendly competitor", in fact, that has a mining permit as well, but operates on a much larger scale and may be slightly more versed in the matters. This will be submitted as soon as possible.
- And lastly, we will, of course, be submitting a Technical Revision as well as the \$216.00 fee for such, within the next 10 – 20 days, now that we are aware of a due date.

We are a small company, and new to mining regulations, but are trying to grow and learn. We have the machinery and man-power to address all issues withing the inspection report. Please keep in mind, however, that we are "shut down" December, January and February, with no employees within our building or on payroll during that time, aside from two management personnel, myself included.

Brandon Garrison

Operations Manager

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