

Dr. Joseph & Mary Scuderi  
68044 Tulare Road  
Montrose, Colorado 81403

April 4, 2013

Barbara J.B. Green  
Sullivan, Green & Seavy  
3223 Arapahoe Avenue  
Boulder, Colorado 80303

RECEIVED  
APR 26 2013  
Durango Field Office  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety

Re: Impacts of the Uncompahre Pit: Rocky Mountain Aggregate LLC- Permit  
NoM2013-007

Dear Ms. Green:

It is our understanding you are a member of the State Reclamation Board. There are many concerned citizens in Montrose County with depth environmental issues that need to be addressed before the State and Montrose County Governmental Agencies approve the gravel, asphalt and concrete plant Rocky Mountain Aggregate Construction, LLC- Permit No. M213-007.

We believe the health and welfare of wildlife and human beings living around this pit will be jeopardized in the years to come if approved. This area is populated with many sub-divisions and businesses. This massive industrial nightmare will result in decades of noise, water and air pollution from mining, petroleum and toxic dust.

As you may know, there are studies, which show the air and noise pollution harm wildlife nesting and living near these types of plants. We have experienced this first hand on Fountain Creek when the Blue Hereon Crane population was compromised.

The Uncompahgre River is a very rare and valuable wetland, which is less than a mile away from the future quarry operation. There are eagles, geese, ducks, humming birds and dove nests along this part of the river and special ponds. We see fox, deer and other animals living near this river. The health and welfare of inhabits living around this pit will be subject to carcinogens and pollution, which could destroy one's health. No two asphalts are chemically alike because of the chemical content of the original crude petroleum form. Concrete, crushed rock and asphalt additives, plus operating temperatures of recycled paving materials cause increase in toxic emissions. Therefore exposure to fumes and toxic dust from the plant will cause headaches, skin rashes, fatigue, and reduced appetite, throat and eye irritation along with coughing and lung disease. The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration documents. "THERE IS NO BIOLOGICAL MECHANISM FOR CLEARING THE BODY TISSUES FROM TOXINS RELEASED FROM THESE TYPES OF PLANT OPERATION."

The water quality may also pose serious health issues to the largely populated area around the pit. The storm water run off and the water being used at the facility can lead to water quality impairment of our drinking water by polluting the aquifer because of the sandy soil which drains quickly from the pit. The sediment ponds leak into the aquifer, which will have lime silo and fly ash from the site as stated in their permit. This is not only a health hazard to humans but to wildlife and fish in this area. It would be a true poison to our natural environment in this given area.

The irrigation ditch which Rocky Mountain Aggregate and Construction LLC. will use is not piped but rather an open ditch carrying water to farmers and the crops they grow which could become contaminated with chemicals. This would infiltrate their fields from this proposed large quarry. Obviously having a negative impact on the agriculture food chain for humans, farm animals and wildlife downstream.

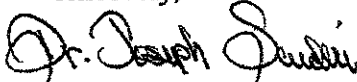
The permit request also states, "the soil area is covered with cobbles, stone, boulders and un-weathered bedrock at the site. There is documentation, which shows a great deal of radioactive materials exists in these materials when crushed. It is well known and has been proven that radioactive material is a carcinogen and causes respiratory cancer. This substance could be carried in the dust along with crystalline silica created by this plant. The pit will be located in a high wind belt; the winds blow west to east. This will increase the corrosion and be harmful to wildlife, humans, farm animals and vegetation. Breathing the particles from deadly dust could cause severe health issues.


We believe the casualty of this development will destroy habitat. Shouldn't this part of the county continue to be a sustainable healthy riparian for humans, wildlife and a pleasant natural environment, as it now exists on its way to the scenic San Juan Mountains?

Does Montrose County have a master plan to protect the wildlife, which lives in and near this valuable wetland of Uncompahre River? Will State and local government protect the human, plant and wildlife threatened by this 247.76 acres of industrial encroachment?

We are requesting you do not give approval to this massive industrial nightmare, which will result in decades of noise, water, and toxic air pollution and perhaps loss of life for those living near this quarry.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Joseph Scuderi

  
Mary Scuderi

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GRAND JUNCTION CO 815

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*Received & opened on 4/25/13  
by Mary Keays  
Legal Assistant, Sullivan Green Co.*

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