



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

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AUG 01 2013

Durango Field Office
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

July 30, 2013

Zane Luttrell, Manager
Rocky Mountain Aggregate & Construction
23625 Uncompahgre Road
Montrose, CO 81403

RE: M2013-007: Use of Surface Water Rights for Gravel Pit Operations

Dear Mr. Luttrell:

You requested a letter from my desk explaining the viability of using certain surface water sources for the gravel pit operations Rocky Mountain Aggregate & Construction is proposing on land owned by Lazy K Land & Cattle in the south Montrose area. The water desired to be used for dust control and gravel washing is water decreed to the Ouray Ditch and water shares delivered under the Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA).

During times of shortage, such as this season when the M&D Canal calls out all junior water rights on the Uncompahgre above its point of diversion (the Ouray Ditch is an affected water right), any water still in priority in the Ouray Ditch may only be used for irrigation. In other words, you cannot use Ouray Ditch water for gravel operations when the river is on call.

UVWUA shares may be used for purposed other than irrigation. So, if your only sources of water for operations are the Ouray Ditch and UVWUA shares, and there is a call on the Uncompahgre River, you are limited to using the UVWUA shares until such time the call is lifted.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Bob W. Hurford, PE
Division Engineer

Water Division 4 • Montrose

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