

November 9, 2021

Routt County Clerk and Recorder's Office
522 Lincoln Avenue
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety
1313 Sherman Street
Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

To whom it may concern. My name is Arie L. Hoogendoorn and am the owner of the Circle Bar Ranch (formerly known as the Warren Ranch) and doing business as SHELLSTEVE, LLC. My ranch is located at 47545 and 47325 CR 129. As you are probably aware my ranch is in conservation with the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust.

As per posted notice ...Notice Rule 1.6.2 (1) (b) I was invited to make comments regarding the request by Tara Sanders to obtain a Reclamation Permit with the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for a mining operation.

The mining operation site in question is located adjacent to a driveway and utility easement which was established in 2005. It was recorded June 25, 2005 at reception No. 620829 as a certain Agreement for Access and Utility Easement and Improvements.

At that time and for several years thereafter it was a two-track ranch road serving access to CR 129 for several homes and my ranch from CR 129 to my upper Big Creek Ridge Parcel.

Since it was a two-track ranch road and difficult to navigate by car one of the home owners improved it (the easement) for easier access but still a one lane trail. This owner sold his property to I believe Tara Sanders about 2 years ago and this spring a small sand and gravel pit grew into a full blown sand and gravel mining operation.

When in operation relatively old dump trucks were used for transport which created a lot of noise, a large big hole, traffic challenges on the easement and the intersection between the easement and CR 129. We were relieved at the discontinuation of this operation by the authorities but it appears this may not be permanent. But what holds for the future?

The eye sore of the large hole in the ground with the adjacent elevated land scape and the excess noise are relatively minor to the serious safety issues this operation exposes to us all. For example this easement is used by my family and ranch personnel for hiking, biking , small farm vehicles, horseback riders and the movement of cattle between the ranch compound on CR 129 and the Big Creek Ridge Parcel. Also as mentioned before homeowners use this easement to and from their homes. The easement has some significantly sloping parts and an out of control truck could create havoc to say the least!


I will not further address the inadequate link between the easement and CR 129.



Last but not least is zoning. Does present zoning allow the presence of an industrial enterprise in a residential and ranching area?

In conclusion I am very concerned if an official mining /reclamation permit would be issued for future use!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I can be reached at 970-879-1750.



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