Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality

This is to request that the decision to approve the expanded gravel extraction, mining and mineral extraction operation of the Evans Family Holdings LP, located at 58 Dell Creek be deferred until further research is conducted regarding the affects this operation will have on the local agricultural community, local tourist activities, including camping & hunting, and the general disruption this could potentially have on the local traffic.

A public meeting to review to review this application has not been conducted nor has any information regarding this particular operation been made available until this past week, just after the Labor Day weekend. This is not an insignificant challenge to the Bondurant community that needs to be fleshed out.

To name a few, here are Key Points to be clarified:

* It is well documented that an operation of this type will produce respirable dust particles which can travel many miles, causing human health hazards and potentially animal health hazards, depending on the animal’s natural defense. This needs to be researched, and has not been discussed, period.
* Two very large cattle operation and other smaller operations are within a few miles north and east of this proposed operation. With the winds in the area predominantly from the southwest, anywhere from 5 mph to well over 25 mph on a regular basis, these particles will travel unimpeded from 1.0 to well over 5 miles away, directly towards the cattle operation, and other local residential areas and hiking trails. Dust particle protection need to be deployed.
* The access to this operation is a Sublette County road, predominantly a Class 1, gravel and magged surface. This road intersects US Hwy 189/191 almost directly across from a busy commercial operation, The Elkhorn, which has a gas station, convenience store, cabins, apartments, restaurant, bar and RV campground.
* This new operation will present an unacceptable confluence of bi-directional traffic on a narrow two-lane US highway, with minimum shoulders, no center turn lane, or any turn lane on either side, presenting an accident ready to happen with large gravel trucks and cars and trucks towing campers slowing down to turn. It is not if an accident will happen, it’s when and how bad.
* The proposed operation sits in the Hoback River water shed. The potential effect of any damage from the operation run-off to the water needs to be seriously considered.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional thoughts and appreciate your immediate consideration to deferring the approval of this operation.

Respectfully,

William L Conley, Jr , President & CEO

The Bondurant Group, LLC