

Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
Land Quality Division  
00 W 17th St., Suite 10  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

September 7, 2024

<http://lq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com/>

Re: TFN 7 1/193, Evans Construction, Jackson WY proposal for a Small Mining Permit, Bondurant WY

I write this letter to strongly object to the permit application as referenced above. The proposed project, which includes gravel mining and the potential construction of a concrete batch and asphalt plant, poses a significant threat to the environment and public safety. The expansion is in close proximity to ten residences, one of which is an RV park with multiple tenants. Given the gravity of the situation, I urge the DEQ to schedule a public hearing in Bondurant before making any decisions.

**Several issues of this proposal are below:**

- The applicant reports springs that flow into the area to be seasonal. These two streams do flow year-round. The engineering report relies on the biased opinion of the applicant that the water flow is seasonal. Two streams traverse the property. One of the springs originating from the Mack property (T38N, R113W, SEC 20, NESE) is not irrigation runoff, as indicated in the application. These streams flow into the wetlands and ultimately into the Hoback River. The application shows the stream running around the mining site while it bisects the excavation site, as depicted on the County's GIS wetlands layer.
- The Army Core of Engineers has not been contacted to address the wetlands that will be affected by the proposed expansion.
- The applicant's failure to provide a comprehensive traffic impact study and diesel idle stipulations for the proposed operation is a cause for concern. This lack of preparation could lead to unforeseen issues and potential harm to the community, which cannot be overstated.
- The proposed days and hours of operation are highly intrusive to a residential area, potentially causing significant disruption to the community. The lack of lighting restrictions further exacerbates the situation, with the applicant only stating that "No nighttime lighting is anticipated." This potential disruption to the community cannot be ignored.
- The dust suppression plan is very inadequate. The lack of a water source other than trucking water to the site indicates that little suppression will occur. The dust suppression plan only addresses the "access road and on other traveled locations in the processing area." There are no suppression provisions on Dell Creek Road 23-114, the rock crushing operations, cement batch plant operations, and the excavating and excavation site/pit itself. The permits for the portable equipment do not address the site-specific issues for this residential location. Furthermore, no dust monitoring procedures have been proposed to ensure public safety.

Dan Bailey  
PO Box 283  
Bondurant, WY 82922

- The letter by the Sublette County P & Z administrator only addresses the mining and mineral extraction. It does not address the concrete and asphalt batch plants, the associated County regulations, and the health hazards associated with those operations.
- Asphalt fumes contain known carcinogens and can cause chronic health effects, including cancer. Asphalt fumes can irritate the eyes, nose, throat, and lungs, leading to coughing, wheezing, and shortness of breath. They can also cause headaches, dizziness, nausea, and vomiting.
- Concrete batch plants omit air pollutants: CBPs release harmful air pollutants, such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulate matter. VOCs can cause respiratory issues, headaches, and skin problems. Particulate matter and crystalline silica are linked to lung problems, asthma, bronchitis, heart disease, and cancer
- The property rights of the adjacent properties will be violated and degraded. If an adjoining property chooses to add additional residential dwellings, this can no longer be allowed due to the health hazards associated with the proposed operation and County setback requirements.
- The hours of operation will be very disturbing to the neighbors. No noise limits have been set, and monitoring procedures have not been indicated to comply with County Regulations: *Section 14. Noise. No use shall be operated so that noise resulting from said use is perceptible beyond the boundaries of the property on which said use is located. Intermittent noise from vehicles, ranching and farming operations, chainsaws and similar equipment in private use, temporary construction operations, and uses in the C-1, CH-1, I-L, and I-H districts shall be exempt from this section.*
- Game & Fish recommends avoiding site activities from March 31 through July 31 and November 15 through April 30. These dates must be included as non-activity restrictions in the permit.

Please reject this application or, at minimum, hold public hearings in Bondurant to address the issues this project expansion would create for public health and safety.

Sincerely,

Dan Bailey

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PO Box 283  
Bondurant, WY 82922