

Wyoming Outdoor Council

Please see attached comments from the Wyoming Outdoor Council. Thank you.



September 6, 2024

Kyle Wendtland, Administrator
Land Quality Division
Department of Environmental Quality,
200 W. 17th Street, Suite 10
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Objection to Small Mine Permit Application - Evans Construction Inc., TFN 7 1/193

*Comments submitted electronically via Land Quality Division online portal:
<https://lq.wyomingdeq.commentinput.com/?id=h5dR9sQY8>*

Dear Administrator Wendtland,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the small mine permit application filed by Evan's Construction Inc. (TFN 7 1/193). Wyoming Outdoor Council's mission is to protect Wyoming's environment and quality of life now and for future generations. This includes working with communities to understand and mitigate impacts from proposed development. Recently, we have been alerted by landowners in Bondurant of the small mine permit application submitted by Evan's Construction Inc.

Though the public notice for this proposed mine was originally filed in July, we have recently heard from numerous individuals, including adjacent landowners who are concerned about potential impacts of mining operations. We also understand that some individuals have reported difficulties with receiving detailed information on the proposed mining operations. Additionally, we understand that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department made recommendations around seasonal timing of mining operations to reduce impacts to wildlife. Although we have not reviewed those recommendations, we feel strongly that they should be reflected under conditions of the permit.

Given these concerns, we suggest that the Department of Environmental Quality Land Quality Division extend the comment period for objections to the proposed mining operation by a minimum of 30 days, to give the public, landowners and other interested parties additional time to understand potential impacts such as increased traffic, dust, noise, and impacts to water quality in Dell Creek and the Hoback River. Furthermore, a public meeting in Sublette County should be considered to allow landowners to hear directly from DEQ about potential impacts and details of conditions for mining activities.

Thank you for considering our comments regarding this small mine permit application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alec Underwood', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alec Underwood
Program Director
Wyoming Outdoor Council