# ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT TODAY ~ FOR TOMORROW

934 N. MAIN ST. SHERIDAN, WY 82801 (307) 672-5809 FAX (307) 672-5800 INFO@POWDERRIVERBASIN.ORG WWW.POWDERRIVERBASIN.ORG



Via overnight mail

August 18, 2017

Administrator of the Land Quality Division Department of Environmental Quality Herschler Building, 122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002<sup>1</sup>

Re: Mullinax Concrete Service Co. Small Mine Permit

Dear Mr. Wendtland,

On behalf of our members who live near the proposed Beckton 2 Mine and other concerned citizens, the Powder River Basin Resource Council thanks you for the opportunity to submit these comments. Our organization is not requesting a hearing related to these comments and merely wishes to file them for the DEQ's consideration.

## Floodplains & Wetlands

The mine is proposed in a sensitive wetlands area near Big Goose Creek. With the public's support, the city of Sheridan has spent considerable resources on improving and protecting the quality and quantity of this important watershed and public water source. See, e.g. <a href="http://sheridanwy.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/FINAL-DRAFT-Sheridan-Upper-Big-Goose-Creek-Watershed-Management-Plan-092115.pdf">http://sheridanwy.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/FINAL-DRAFT-Sheridan-Upper-Big-Goose-Creek-Watershed-Management-Plan-092115.pdf</a>. Limiting runoff and discharge into the Creek, and minimizing disruption to the local hydrologic system needs to be a priority for DEQ. We support permit terms and conditions that protect surface and underground water, prevent impacts to wetlands, and restrict development in floodplains.

### Wildlife

The area has prevalent wildlife, including deer, raptors, and a variety of other species. Our members enjoy the wildlife of the area and we support appropriate permit terms and conditions that provide buffers and limit habitat impacts to wildlife. We also support wildlife monitoring requirements as part of the permit.

### Traffic

The mine will create heavy truck traffic impacts on Big Goose Road and could present safety concerns for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists. We support DEQ's coordination with WYDOT to consider these impacts through the permitting process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although our organization is aware that the DEQ LQD office has relocated, we are submitting these comments to the address listed in the public notice.

# Noise and Light

The mine will create noise and light pollution for neighboring homeowners and we support permit terms and conditions that will mitigate these impacts, including sound and light barriers or buffers.

# **Monitoring and Inspections**

Our members request regular inspections and monitoring as part of this project given the sensitive environmental area it is proposed in. We ask DEQ to include a permit term for monthly inspections during operations.

Thank you for the consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Shannon Anderson

Powder River Basin Resource Council

934 N. Main St.

Sheridan, WY 82801





APPLY PRIORITY MAIL POSTAGE HERE





U.S. POSTAGE PAID SHERIDAN, WY 82801 AUG 18, 17 AMOUNT R2304y122418-07

Expected Delivery Day: 08/21/2017

**USPS TRACKING NUMBER** 



9505 5103 6881 7230 1183 00 For International shipments, the maximum weight is 4 lbs.

EP14H July 2013 Outer Dimension: 10 x 5



Powder River Basin Resource Council 934 North Main Street Sheridan WY 82801



Administrator of the land Quality Division Department of Environmental Quality Herschler Bldg. 122W. 25th St. Cheyenne by 82002