

Warren Murphy, Manager
Diamond View Subdivision
50 Diamond View Road
Cody, Wy. 82414

Administrator of the Land Quality Division
Department of Environmental Quality
200 W. 17th St., Suite 210
Cheyenne, WY 82002

The membership of the Diamond View Homeowners Association is writing to object to portions of the request for a mining permit by Wilson Brothers Construction of Cowley, Wyoming. They wish to proceed with a bentonite mine in Park County that sits directly across from our subdivision. This proposed mine is located in Section 28, Township 52North, Range 102 West, Park County, Wyoming.


Wilson Brothers is requesting a permit to mine this area of BLM land and we wish to object to their proposed mining plan. We feel that portions of this plan will create a public nuisance for not only our subdivision members but also the numerous other families who reside along County Road 6UU that will be used for transporting bentonite from the mine to its destination in Lovell, WY.

In reading the plan we notice several inconsistencies and questions that have been left unanswered by Wilson Brothers. For instance, we notice DEQ requires all haul roads be treated for "fugitive dust" during the mining. This should be accomplished by treating the dust with water from a water truck. However, the plan also calls for allowing the bentonite itself to "dry" on site and obviously water cannot be applied therefore allowing fugitive dust to become a health hazard. This dust will easily blow into the homes of local residents. This is one of the windiest sites in Park County. We believe this will be an environmental nuisance. Also, bentonite dust that is spread from mine vehicles may well pollute the highways, both Road 6UU and state highway 291. It is well known that when bentonite becomes wet from rain and snow it can cause slick conditions on the roadway.

We feel this must be alleviated before any mining permit is given. This could be addressed by requiring all truck loads be covered adequately from start to finish and that any ambient dust or bentonite that leaves the mine site should be cleaned by "street sweepers" that are used in other mining locations. This is not called for in the plan.

For these and other reasons we write to object to this permit application and request a PUBLIC HEARING before the Environmental Quality Council to present our concerns. We look forward to hearing from you in regards to this request.

Sincerely,


Warren Murphy, Manager
For the Diamond View Subdivision

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