

April 7, 2020

Katherman-Robinson Trust
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Mr. Kyle Wendtland, Administrator
Land Quality Division
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
200 West 17th St., Suite 10
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mr. Wendtland:

We were recently informed of the plans by Phillips and Jordan Inc., of Knoxville, TN, to open a gravel quarry in "the second quarter of 2020" in Section 16, Township 33N, Range 72W. Looking at maps of the planned quarry site, we see that it is directly across from our ranch at 797 Inez Road in Converse County.

We have numerous concerns about this quarry's profound cumulative effects to this area, considering that there are even now three active gravel pits along this 3 mile stretch of Inez Rd. These effects include, but are not limited to other landowner property value, the health and habitat of local deer and pronghorn herds, the condition of the unpaved county road, and most especially the safety of our families when driving this road.

The active mine just east of the one proposed was initially approved as a 15-acre quarry and is now well over 40 acres, including 4 different access roads. The truck drivers for this and the other quarries are generally independent contractors and have often been observed disregarding stop signs, ignoring speed limits and taking up so much of Inez road that other drivers are forced into the barrow ditch. Our sheriff has had to respond to numerous complaints but these drivers are not employees of the lease holder and can rarely be traced.

Mining gravel from the top of these pediment hills is equivalent to the mountain top mining done elsewhere, with dire results. No reclamation of any of these quarries has yet been attempted and we note that Phillips and Jordan Inc. sold their quarry without doing any reclamation. The company now operating this mine is keeping it active now despite the Governor's recommendation that non-essential businesses comply with closure recommendation during this health crisis.

We would therefore like you to consider this letter an *official objection* to the planned quarry. We request a public hearing before the Environmental Quality Council, as specified by the "contested case" laws in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedures Act, W.S. 16-3-101 through 16-3-115. Considering the public health constraints right now, we would agree to a delay or other accommodations, but still want to make sure that our objections are made and addressed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Maria Katherman, Landowner



Willard Robinson, Landowner

