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

AUG 14 2013

392 Granite Park Road  
Wheatland, WY 82201  
August 12, 2013

RECEIVED

Dear Administrator of the Land Quality Division:

I currently own land located one mile from the proposed Sugarland Partners, LLC marble mining permit site (Permit 292C) located in Platte County, Wyoming in Section 3, T24N, R70. I would like to inform you that current landowner names on land surrounding the proposed mine are incorrect.

Luke Corl has not owned land next to the mine for some twelve years. Many other inaccurate assumptions are in this permit request.

For example, I object to the permit allowing the mine owners to reclaim the site with sunflowers. Sunflowers are native to the southeastern part of the United States, not to Wyoming. Sunflowers have never been used to reclaim any Wyoming highway right of way sections because they do not prevent soil from blowing away. The idea of any reclamation effort is to prevent land erosion. Reclamation efforts in Platte County need to have grasses native to this area planted to ensure a tight hold on the land to prevent a dust bowl situation from developing. A sunflower has a long stem and nothing around the bottom of the plant to prevent land erosion. It is top heavy, creating an ideal plant to be lifted up and blown away by the ferocious winds we have in this area of Platte County. These dried up sunflowers would end up on eastern border fences of the area, pushing down those fences.

The bond of \$15,000 that the reclamation department is requesting is too little. I drove by the mine site frequently when it was previously reclaimed. Many bulldozers worked 24 hours round the clock for six months to finish the reclamation effort. \$15,000 would not pay for even one of those workers. That reclamation effort was supposed to include brush and tree plantings which were never done. Sharon Utter and Larry Wilson complained to me about the tin etc. used in the old mine buildings just being pushed in to the big hole and covered up with dirt. The reclamation effort at that time produced dust bowls whenever the wind blew until enough grass covered the reclaimed land to keep dust bowls from forming. If sunflowers are planted, there is no hope of any dirt staying on the ground during the winter months, which in Wyoming, would be 8 months.

The Wyoming office of the Land Quality division needs to make sure that a proposed mine will minimize impacts to the environment and that areas would be properly restored after this mining area is closed. Permit 292C does not properly address environmental impacts to the site and should be denied. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Janice K. Hyché

**FILED**

AUG 19 2013

Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary  
Environmental Quality Council

**Permit No. 292C**

**Janice Hyche** <hyche@bbcwb.net>  
To: robin.jones@wyo.gov

Thu, Aug 15, 2013 at 9:03 PM

I am requesting a hearing before the Department of Environmental Quality in Cheyenne in regards to permit No. 292C objections as discussed in my letter to the Land Quality Division stamped received by the Land Quality Division office on August 14, 2013.

Thank you, Janice K. Hyche

**Robin Jones** <robin.jones@wyo.gov>  
To: Janice Hyche <hyche@bbcwb.net>

Fri, Aug 16, 2013 at 8:10 AM

Janice,  
I will include your email request into the record for this matter. Please send a hardcopy letter with signature receipt of your request to DEQ-LQD as well. Thank you.

**Robin Jones**  
**District 1 Supervisor**  
**Vegetation Ecologist**  
**Wyoming DEQ-Land Quality Division**  
**Office: (307) 777-8956**

Please note new email address: **Robin.Jones@wyo.gov**

E-mail to and from me, in connection with the transaction of public business, is subject to the Wyoming Public Records Act and may be disclosed to third parties.

[Quoted text hidden]



Tanice,

Here is the material you requested. I did not include the soil survey (Appendix D7) because it contained larger maps. The entire permit and the proposed changes to the mine & reclamation plans are available for public viewing and copying in the Cheyenne office, 3rd floor west of the Herschler building.

Thank you,  
Robin Jones

Just a note...