

November 22, 2013



To: Nancy Nuttbrock
Deputy Director of the Land Quality Division
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
Herschler Building, 3-W
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002.
307-777-7046



NOV 25 2013

RECEIVED

From: Kniffy Hamilton
Chair, Board of Directors
Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
P.O. Box 2728
Jackson, WY, 83001
307-733-9417

FILED

DEC 05 2013

Re: Objecting to Seherr-Thoss Sand & Gravel Small Mine Permit

Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary
Environmental Quality Council

Dear Deputy Director Nuttbrock,

The Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance objects to the issuance of the Seherr-Thoss Sand & Gravel Small Mine Permit.

The Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance (Alliance) is a grassroots organization that provides balanced solutions for the community and environment of Jackson Hole. Since 1979 we have worked with thousands of our supporters to protect the wildlife, wild places, and community character of Jackson Hole.

The Alliance objects to the issuance of the Seherr-Thoss Sand & Gravel Small Mine Permit for a numbers of reasons:

- 1. An expansion of the Seherr-Thoss gravel operation is not compliant with local land use regulations.** In 2011, after hearing all the facts and evidence, the Teton County Board of County Commissioners concluded that the gravel operation was a grandfathered use under Teton County's land development regulations, but only to the scope and degree that it was operating at the time of the enactment of the land development regulations in 1978. The Board ordered the operation reduced to three acres, including all area used for extraction, screening, stockpiling, and crushing. Further, the volume of extracted gravel was to be reduced to 17,000 tons per year. Commissioners also put a limit on the operation's hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. In 2013, the District Court of Teton County affirmed the Teton County Board of County Commissioners Order limiting the Seherr-Thoss gravel operation. The Wyoming Supreme Court will take

Partnering for a Wild and Beautiful Community Since 1979. The Results of Our Work are All Around You.

LWD

up the case in December, but until it rules, the District Court of Teton County's ruling is the law of the land. Teton County's existing land use regulations would not allow a new gravel operation on the Seherr-Thoss property, as it is not appropriate.

NOV 25 2013

2. An expansion of the Seherr-Thoss gravel operation would harm the community. Approximately 500 homes surround the Seherr-Thoss property. A 12-fold increase in the operation would dramatically increase truck traffic and associated particulate air pollution. This would have detrimental health effects, especially for children playing in the new County neighborhood park (known as Munger View Park), located adjacent to the east boundary of the gravel-pit operation. It would create dangerous situations for school buses dropping off and picking up kids, people driving cars, riding bikes, and walking or jogging on South Park Loop Road. It would also significantly increase noise pollution in a primarily residential neighborhood.

RECEIVED

In summary, the Alliance objects to the issuance of the Seherr-Thoss Sand & Gravel Small Mine Permit because it is not compliant with local land use regulations and would harm the community. The Alliance would like to be included in the hearing process.

Regards,

Kniffy Hamilton

Kniffy Hamilton
Chair, Board of Directors
Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance

RECEIVED
NOV 29 2013
WIDE LANDER