



Roxsand

Successful Permitting Through Teamwork and Adaption

By Lynn Mayer Shults, Regulatory Manager



Above, West Farm – with a ditch relocated to west side of site, we will have a larger area to mine.



Right, West Farm – with ditches removed, there are larger farm fields available for our tenant farmers

Gone are the days of buying land with a handshake and drawing permit maps without using GPS surveys and AutoCAD. Government regulations are getting more complicated and stricter year after year. The increasing regulations make the permitting process cost more and take longer than it ever has in the past. As the regulations change, we can tell stories and reminisce about the good ol' days, but we must adapt our perspectives and practices, to get permits approved and then to stay in compliance with all the operating standards.

All this permitting work requires ROCK SOLID TEAMWORK throughout the life of a project - from the first due diligence of finding and evaluating new properties, to planning and permitting the site, then prepping and running operations, and finally reclaiming a site for a beneficial end-use.

Believe it or not, some of the additional

Looking at it differently, we can see that this groundwater monitoring requirement will give us great data about the existing groundwater levels, and the pre-existing amounts of minerals, metals, pollutants, and other chemicals located within the groundwater flowing under our future mine site.

We have 14 monitoring wells at the West Farm site, and have been collecting quantity data since 2019, and started collecting groundwater quality data in March-2024. By collecting and reporting this representative, defensible groundwater data before we start operating the mine site:

- We can make better predictions and preemptively address any possible impacts to groundwater levels due to mining, dewatering, and installation of slurry walls or liners. This could mean changing the sequence of mining, putting in a French drain, or dewatering at a slower rate.
- With the baseline quality data, we

By the way, we can check two more permitting items off the list for West Farm. On July 16th, the Final Development Plan for the West Farm mine site was unanimously approved by Platteville's Town Board. We also completed the ditch removal and relocation work covered by our US Army Corps of Engineers permit. With some ditches removed, and one relocated from the middle to the perimeter of the site, the property is opened up to allow larger farm fields for the next few years. Of course this also means we will have increased mining areas and larger final water storage reservoirs.

The L.G. Everist team will continue to work hard to ensure that our operations are in full compliance with government regulations, and cause no adverse effects to our neighbors or the environment. Our hard work demonstrates good stewardship of the land, and encourages positive working relationships with regulators and the

requirements that have recently been added in Colorado will be beneficial to us in the long run. A good example is the new requirement of baseline groundwater monitoring for quantity (level, elevation) and quality (chemical parameters) that must be done before mining operations begin. At first glance - and in an old perspective - it just feels like government overreach, extra cost, and not something that would help the mine operator. Wrong!

can defend ourselves (if needed) in the future, by showing that certain chemicals were existing before we touched the site. We can also address any groundwater quality issues throughout the life of the mine by adjusting dewatering practices – lowering or increasing the pumping rate, filtering the water before discharging it, etc.

general public.

-Lynn Mayer Shults

To dive deeper into Colorado Water Law, follow the link below for comprehensive history and insights on the regulations governing water rights and usage in the state.

[Colorado Water Law Guide](#)

[Click Here for Spanish Version](#)



August 12th-18th is Safe + Sound Week, organized by OSHA, NIOSH, the National Safety Council, and many other organizations. This is an initiative set forward to encourage businesses to line up a safety management team, gain team participation throughout the organization, and find and fix hazards in the workplace. If these programs are already in place, it is a chance to recognize and celebrate the successes of the programs.



LGE safety lunches at Akron and Dell Rapids East were a success. We thank everyone for their participation and commitment to safety.

Happy Birthday

Rigo Espinoza Nunez - August 09

Fort Lupton

Alec Riswold - August 11

Hawarden

Taylor Branson - August 12

Akron

Allen Poe - August 12

Dell Rapids East

James Bachmeier - August 12

Myrl & Roy's

Mike Bunkers - August 13

Dell Rapids East

Andrew Thompson - August 13

Myrl & Roy's

Stephen DuBois - August 14

Ortonville

David Cardwell - August 14

Summit

Craig McCarthy - August 14

Ace Ready Mix

Kris Bruinsma - August 14

Myrl & Roy's

Ruben Martinez Aguilar - August 15

Firestone

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