

Empire Aggregate, Inc.  
1635 65<sup>th</sup> Ave, Unit 1  
Greeley, CO 80634

October 24, 2019

Peter Hayes  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety  
1313 Sherman St, Rm 215  
Denver, CO 80203

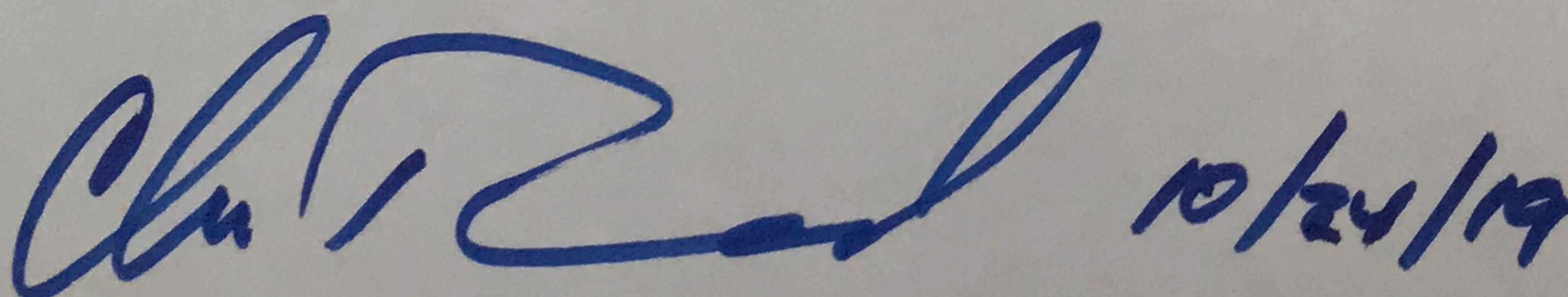
**Douglas Mountain Ranch Mine File No. M-2018-016  
Withdrawal of Permit Application**

Mr. Hayes

Empire Aggregates, Inc., permittee and applicant for the reclamation permit for the site known as the Douglas Mountain Ranch Mine near Empire, CO, is writing to inform your office that it has decided to withdraw our application for said reclamation permit.

Throughout this process, your office has dealt with our application with utmost professionalism, and we appreciate the Division's guidance on this contentious application. While Empire Aggregates still believes that it could craft a mining and reclamation plan that would be satisfactory to both the public and to all regulators, objections posed by certain parties have effectively blocked this path. The Colorado Parks and Wildlife has made it clear that they will not work with us to develop a path forward. Additionally, comments provided to the Division by the local State Representative unfairly tilt the process against approval for political reasons. The scale and scope of engineering and design work needed to address all concerns is not worth pursuing in the face of these objections.

Once again, we thank you and your staff for your time and effort on this application. The Douglas Mountain Ranch Mine application is hereby withdrawn.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Townsend", followed by the date "10/24/19" written in the same ink.

Chris Townsend, Empire Aggregate, Inc.