

City of Fort Collins

Scope of Work

SWSP Request for East Rigden Pit Property

Introduction The City of Fort Collins is the operator responsible for a gravel mine located just east of the city near the intersection of Drake Road and Ziegler Road, known as the East Rigden Pit Property. A portion of this site has been converted by the City to a lined water storage facility known as Rigden Reservoir. It is our understanding that the remaining portions of this pit are located on lands owned by the City and by others, with the City remaining the named operator by DRMS. The property contains exposed ground water areas that have previously been considered exempt from administration under SB-120. The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS) recently inspected the site and determined that portions of the remaining exposed ground water areas had increased beyond the exempt size, and notified the City that the pit was in violation. The Violation Notice requires the City to show evidence that the City is taking measures to bring the site into compliance that replaces the evaporative losses from the increase in exposed ground water in order to prevent injury to other water rights.

This proposed Scope of Work summarizes the work tasks required to prepare and submit a Substitute Water Supply Plan (SWSP) request to the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR) that would replace the evaporative depletions to the Cache la Poudre River from the increased exposed ground water areas. An approval of the SWSP will ensure that the City is preventing injury to other water rights, however the submittal of a SWSP request should address the Corrective Action included with the DRMS notice.

Scope of Work Tasks

To complete this evaluation, we propose to complete the following tasks. We are not anticipating any site visits or meetings with City staff at this time related to the completion of this work.

1. **Background Information Review**

This task will include the review of available information regarding the DRMS Notice of Violation, prior SWSP information, if available, and other information from the City staff.

2. **Evaluate Exposed Ground Water Areas**

We will obtain and review current and historical aerial imagery to evaluate any changes in exposed ground water, outside of the boundary of the Rigden Reservoir lined area. We will compare this evaluation with the DRMS Notice and any prior SWSP mapping. The goal of this task will be to confirm the DRMS findings. We will report these findings to the City, and potentially to the DRMS inspector for further consideration.

3. **Prepare and Submit a SWSP Request**

We will prepare a SWSP request under C.R.S. Section 37-90-137 (11) for gravel pits, which will include a presentation of any increased surface area, an estimate of the net evaporative depletion volume and lagged timing affects to the Cache la Poudre River. The SWSP request will identify the City's augmentation water supplies available to replace the increased evaporative depletions and propose a plan of operation for the SWSP period. This SWSP request will also include any appropriate tables, maps, and other related information necessary for the DWR to evaluate the request.

Following the submittal of the SWSP request, the DWR may require additional information or analysis prior to issuing an approval. We will work with the DWR staff to address any questions or concerns that they may have. We will also review any approvals issued to confirm consistency with the request and to summarize any operational requirements for the City.

4. **Well Permits**

The DWR requires a valid well permit for any ground water exposed as a part of gravel mining. We will obtain and review any well permit records maintained by the City or may be available from the DWR database. Depending upon the specifics of any existing well

permits, additional well permits may be needed. We will recommend to the City any additional permits needed and assist the City the preparation and submittal of any necessary permit applications. Such applications may require an evaluation of other nearby well permits that may need to be notified of the SWSP request and the well permit application.

Total SOW Cost Estimate: \$ 10,000