

# STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor  
James B. Martin, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

July 29, 2008

Joe Turner  
Timnath Ranch LLC  
8020 S. CR 5., Suite 200  
Windsor, CO 80528

Certified Mail Number: 7005 1820 0000 3208 1906

**RE: Service of Notice of Violation/Cease and Desist Order, Number: SO-080729-5**

Dear Mr. Turner:

Timnath Ranch LLC is hereby served with the enclosed Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order (the "NOV/CDO"). This NOV/CDO is issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Water Quality Control Division (the "Division") pursuant to the authority given to the Division by §§25-8-602 and 25-8-605, C.R.S. of the *Colorado Water Quality Control Act*, (the "Act"). The Division bases this NOV/CDO upon findings that Timnath Ranch LLC has violated the Act, and its implementing permit regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act, as described in the enclosed NOV/CDO.

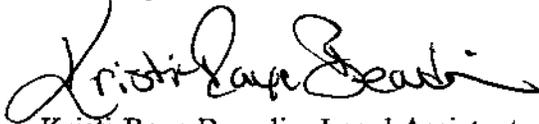
Pursuant to §25-8-603, C.R.S., Timnath Ranch LLC is required, within thirty (30) calendar days of issuance of this NOV/CDO, to submit to the Division an answer admitting or denying each paragraph of the Findings of Fact and responding to the Notice of Violation.

This action could result in the imposition of civil penalties. The Division is authorized pursuant to §25-8-608, C.R.S. to impose a penalty of \$10,000 per day for each day during which such violation occurs.

Please be advised that the Division is continuing its investigation into this matter and the Division may identify supplementary violations that warrant amendments to this NOV/CDO or the issuance of additional enforcement actions.

Should you or representatives of Timnath Ranch LLC desire to discuss this matter informally with the Division, or if you have any questions regarding the NOV/CDO, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Harris of this office by phone at (303) 692-3598 or by electronic mail at michael.harris@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Kristi-Raye Beaudin, Legal Assistant  
Compliance Assurance and Data Management Section  
WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION

cc: Larimer County Department of Health and Environment  
MS-3 File

ec: Aaron Urdiales, EPA Region VIII  
Cary Pilon, Engineering Section, CDPHE  
Dick Parachini, Outreach and Assistance Unit, CDPHE  
Andrew Ross, Permits Section, CDPHE

Enclosure(s)



**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION**

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**NOTICE OF VIOLATION / CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**

**NUMBER: SO-080729-5**

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**IN THE MATTER OF:      TIMNATH RANCH LLC**  
**CDPS PERMIT NO. COR-030000**  
**CERTIFICATION NO. COR-03A954**  
**LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO**

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Pursuant to the authority vested in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (the "Department") Division of Administration by §§25-1-109 and 25-8-302, C.R.S., which authority has been delegated to the Department's Water Quality Control Division (the "Division"), and pursuant to §§25-8-602 and 25-8-605, C.R.S., the Division hereby makes the following Findings of Fact and issues the following Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order:

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. At all times relevant to the alleged violations identified herein, Timnath Ranch LLC ("Timnath") was a Colorado limited liability company in good standing and registered to conduct business in the State of Colorado.
2. Timnath is a "person" as defined under the Water Quality Control Act, §25-8-103(13), C.R.S. and its implementing permit regulation, 5 CCR 1002-61, §61.2(73).
3. On or about December 7, 2006, Timnath initiated construction activities of a commercial and residential subdivision on 260 acres of property located at or near County Road 3 and County Road 36, in Larimer County, Colorado (the "Project").
4. On October 17, 2006, the Division received an application from Timnath for Project coverage under the Colorado Discharge Permit System ("CDPS") General Permit, Number COR-030000, for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (the "Permit").
5. On October 24, 2006, the Division provided Timnath Certification Number COR-03A954 authorizing Timnath to discharge stormwater from the construction activities associated with the Project to Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch and the Cache la Poudre River under the terms and conditions of the Permit. Certification Number COR-03A954 became effective October 24, 2006 and remains in effect until June 30, 2012 or until Timnath inactivates permit coverage.

6. Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch and the Cache la Poudre River are “state waters” as defined by §25-8-103(19), C.R.S. and its implementing permit regulation, 5 CCR 1002-61, §61.2 (102).
7. Pursuant to 5 CCR 1002-61, §61.8, a permittee must comply with all the terms and conditions of a permit and violators of the terms and conditions specified in a permit may be subject to civil and criminal liability pursuant to §§25-8-601 through 612, C.R.S.
8. On May 1, 2007, a representative from PG Environmental, LLC (the “Inspector”) conducted an on-site inspection of the Project on behalf of the Division, pursuant to the Division’s authority under §25-8-306, C.R.S., to determine Timnath’s compliance with the Water Quality Control Act and the Permit. During the inspection, the Inspector interviewed Project representatives, reviewed the Project’s stormwater management system records, and performed a physical inspection of the Project.

#### **Deficient and/or Incomplete Stormwater Management Plan**

9. Pursuant to Part I. B. of the Permit, Timnath is required to prepare and maintain a Stormwater Management Plan (“SWMP”) that identifies Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) that, when implemented, will meet the terms and conditions of the Permit. The SWMP was required to identify potential sources of pollution, which may be reasonably expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharges associated with construction activity from the Project. In addition, the plan is required to describe and ensure the implementation of BMPs, which will be used to reduce the pollutants in stormwater discharges associated with construction activity.
10. Pursuant to Part I. B. of the Permit, the Project’s SWMP shall include, at a minimum, the following items:
  - a. Site Description - Each plan shall provide a description of the following:
    - i. A description of the construction activity.
    - ii. The proposed sequence for major activities.
    - iii. Estimates of the total area of the site and the area of the site that is expected to undergo clearing, excavation or grading.
    - iv. An estimate of the runoff coefficient of the site before and after construction activities are completed (2002 Permit) and any existing data describing the soil, soil erosion potential or the quality of any discharge from the site.
    - v. A description of the existing vegetation at the site and an estimate of the percent vegetative ground cover.
    - vi. The location and description of any other potential pollution sources, such as vehicle fueling, storage of fertilizers or chemicals, etc.
    - vii. The location and description of any anticipated non-stormwater components of the discharge, such as springs and landscape irrigation return flow (2002 Permit) or allowable sources of non-stormwater discharge at the site, e.g., uncontaminated springs, landscape irrigation return flow, construction dewatering, and concrete washout (2007 Permit).
    - viii. The name of the receiving water(s) and the size, type and location of any outfall or, if the discharge is to a municipal separate storm sewer, the name of that system, the location of the storm sewer discharge, and the ultimate receiving water(s).

- b. **Site Map** - Each plan shall provide a generalized site map or maps which indicate:
  - i. Construction site boundaries.
  - ii. All areas of soil disturbance.
  - iii. Areas of cut and fill.
  - iv. Areas used for storage of building materials, soils or wastes.
  - v. Location of any dedicated asphalt or concrete batch plants.
  - vi. Location of major erosion control facilities or structures.
  - vii. Springs, streams, wetlands and other surface waters.
  - viii. Boundaries of 100-year flood plains, if determined.
  
- c. **BMPs for Stormwater Pollution Prevention** - The plan shall include a narrative description of appropriate controls and measures that will be implemented before and during construction activities at the facility, including:
  - i. **Erosion and Sediment Controls** – A description of structural site management controls (Structural Practices) which will minimize erosion and sediment transport and a description of interim and permanent stabilization practices (Non-Structural Practices), including the site-specific scheduling of the implementation of the practices.
  - ii. **Phased BMP Implementation** – The SWMP shall clearly describe the relationship between the phases of construction and the implementation and maintenance of BMPs
  - iii. **Materials Handling and Spill Prevention** - The SWMP shall identify any procedures or significant materials handled at the site that could contribute pollutants to runoff.
  - iv. **Dedicated Concrete or Asphalt Batch Plants** – The SWMP shall clearly describe and locate BMPs to control stormwater pollution from dedicated concrete batch plants or dedicated asphalt batch plants.
  
- d. **Final Stabilization and Long-Term Stormwater Management** - Description of the measures used to achieve final stabilization and measures to control pollutants in stormwater discharges that will occur after construction operations have been completed.
  
- e. **Other Controls** - Description of other measures to control pollutants in stormwater discharges, including plans for waste disposal and limiting off-site soil tracking.
  
- f. **Inspection and Maintenance** - Description of procedures to inspect and maintain in good and effective operating condition the vegetation, erosion and sediment control measures and other protective measures identified in the SWMP.

11. The Division has determined that Timnath failed to prepare and maintain a complete and accurate SWMP for the Project as described in paragraphs 11(a-e) below:

- a. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector reviewed the Project’s SWMP and identified that the site map did not include all areas used for the storage of building materials, soils or wastes. Specifically, the map did not include the portable toilets or waste receptacles located at the southwest corner of the site.
  
- b. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector reviewed the Project’s SWMP and identified that the SWMP did not describe the relationship between the phases of construction and the implementation and maintenance of controls and measures.

- c. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector reviewed the Project's SWMP and identified that the SWMP did not include all procedures of significant materials that could contribute pollutants to runoff. Specifically, the SWMP did not include spill prevention and response procedures for the vehicle fueling activities that were taking place at the site.
  - d. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector reviewed the Project's SWMP and identified that the SWMP did not include a description of procedures to inspect and maintain in good and effective operating condition the vegetation, erosion and sediment control measures and other protective measures.
  - e. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector reviewed the Project's SWMP and identified that the SWMP did not include a description of the measures used to achieve final stabilization and measures to control pollutants in stormwater discharges that will occur after construction operations have been completed.
12. Timnath's failure to prepare and maintain a complete and accurate SWMP for the Project constitutes violations of Part I. B. of the Permit.

**Failure to Implement and/or Maintain  
Best Management Practices to Protect Stormwater Runoff**

13. Pursuant to Part I. B. 3. a. (1) of the Permit, Timnath is required to minimize erosion and sediment transport from the Project. The Permit specifies that structural site management practices may include, but are not limited to: straw bales, silt fences, earth dikes, drainage swales, sediment traps, subsurface drains, inlet protection, outlet protection, gabions, and temporary or permanent sediment basins.
14. Pursuant to Part I. B. 3. a. (2) of the Permit, Timnath is required to implement interim and permanent stabilization practices, including site-specific scheduling of the implementation of the practices. The Permit specifies that site plans should ensure existing vegetation is preserved where possible and that disturbed areas are stabilized. The Permit specifies that non-structural practices may include, but are not limited to: temporary seeding, permanent seeding, mulching, geotextiles, sod stabilization, vegetative buffer strips, protection of trees and preservation of mature vegetation.
15. The Division has determined that Timnath failed to implement and/or maintain functional BMPs at the Project as described in paragraphs 15(a-g) below:
- a. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed a dewatering channel located at the southwest portion of the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the disturbed slopes of the channel or to prevent sediment from discharging to the channel and into Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch. Additionally, no BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the disturbed area surrounding the outlet pipe to Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch.
  - b. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed soil stockpiles located adjacent to the south side of the dewatering channel located at the southwest portion of the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the stockpiles or to prevent sediment from discharging from the stockpiles during storm events.

- c. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed a temporary culvert pipe leading to the dewatering channel located at the southwest portion of the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the disturbed ditch at the outlet of the culvert or to prevent sediment from discharging from the ditch, into the dewatering channel and into Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch. Additionally, no BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the disturbed slopes surrounding the culvert and ditch or to prevent sediment from discharging from the area, into the dewatering channel and into Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch.
  - d. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed disturbed slopes located adjacent to the Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch along the western boundary of the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the slopes, prevent run-on to the disturbed slopes, or to prevent sediment from discharging to the Timnath Reservoir Outlet Ditch during storm events. Consequently, erosion of the disturbed slopes was observed.
  - e. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed a disturbed area located to East Harmony Road near the northern entrance to the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the disturbed area or to prevent sediment from discharging to the pre-existing concrete drainage channel located adjacent to the disturbed area. Consequently, sediment and soil discharge was observed within the concrete drainage channel.
  - f. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed a disturbed soil stockpile located on the west side of the southwest construction site entrance at the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the stockpile or to prevent sediment from discharging from the stockpile during storm events.
  - g. During the May 1, 2007 inspection, the Inspector observed a disturbed construction entrance located at the southeast corner of the Project. No BMPs were observed in place to stabilize the construction entrance or to prevent sediment from discharging from the site.
16. Timnath's failure to implement and maintain functional BMPs to protect stormwater quality during construction activities at the Project constitutes violations of Part I. B. 3. a. of the Permit.

### **NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, you are hereby notified that the Division has determined that Timnath has violated the following sections of the Permit:

**Part I. B. of the Permit**, which states in part, "The SWMP shall be prepared in accordance with good engineering, hydrologic and pollution control practices. The main objective of the plan shall be to identify Best Management Practices (BMPs) which when implemented will meet the terms and conditions of this permit. The plan shall identify potential sources of pollution (including sediment) which may be reasonably expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharges associated with construction activity from the facility. In addition, the plan shall describe and ensure the implementation of BMPs which will be used to reduce the pollutants in stormwater discharges associated with construction activity. Construction operations must implement the provisions of the SWMP required under this part as a condition of this permit."

**Part I. B. 3. a. of the Permit**, which outlines in part that BMPs for Stormwater Pollution Prevention shall address erosion and sediment controls, including “structural site management practices which will minimize erosion and sediment transport,” and “interim and permanent stabilization practices, including site specific scheduling of the implementation of the practices. Site plans should ensure that existing vegetation is preserved where possible and that disturbed areas are stabilized.”

### **REQUIRED CORRECTIVE ACTION**

Based upon the foregoing factual and legal determinations and pursuant to §§25-8-602 and 25-8-605, C.R.S., Timnath is hereby ordered to:

17. Cease and desist from all violations of the Colorado Water Quality Control Act, §§25-8-101 through 25-8-703, C.R.S., its implementing regulations promulgated thereto and the Permit.

Furthermore, the Division hereby orders Timnath to comply with the following specific terms and conditions of this Order:

18. Timnath shall immediately evaluate the Project’s SWMP and implement necessary measures to ensure that the SWMP contains all of the elements required by the current version of the Permit and is effective in managing stormwater and pollutant discharges from the Project. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this Order, Timnath shall submit to the Division a written certification stating that a complete, effective and up-to-date SWMP has been fully developed and implemented at the Project.
19. Timnath shall immediately implement necessary measures to ensure that adequate BMPs are in place to control stormwater and pollutant discharges from the Project. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this Order, Timnath shall evaluate and modify all existing BMPs at the Project to ensure the BMPs meet the design requirements specified in the Project’s complete and up-to-date SWMP. Within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of this Order, Timnath shall submit photographs to the Division documenting the current conditions and the associated BMPs implemented at the Project.
20. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of this Order, Timnath shall submit to the Division a detailed written statement outlining the standard procedures Timnath will undertake to ensure that functional stormwater management systems are fully implemented at its Colorado construction sites.

### **NOTICES AND SUBMITTALS**

For all documents, plans, records, reports and replies required to be submitted by this Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order, Timnath shall submit an original and an electronic copy to the Division at the following address:

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Water Quality Control Division / WQCD-B2  
Compliance Assurance and Data Management Section  
Attention: Michael Harris  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530  
michael.harris@state.co.us

For any person submitting documents, plans, records and reports pursuant to this Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order, that person shall make the following certification with each submittal:

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.”

#### **OBLIGATION TO ANSWER AND REQUEST FOR HEARING**

Pursuant to §25-8-603, C.R.S. and 5 CCR 1002, §21.11 you are required to submit to the Division an answer affirming or denying each paragraph of the Findings of Fact and responding to the Notice of Violation. The answer shall be filed no later than thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of this action.

Section 25-8-603, C.R.S. and 5 CCR 1002, §21.11 also provide that the recipient of a Notice of Violation may request the Division to conduct a public hearing to determine the validity of the Notice, including the Findings of Fact. Such request shall be filed in writing with the Division and include the information specified in 5 CCR 1002, §21.4(B)(2). Absent a request for hearing, the validity of the factual allegations and the Notice of Violation shall be deemed established in any subsequent Department proceeding. The request for hearing, if any, shall be filed no later than thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this action. The filing of an answer does not constitute a request for hearing.

#### **FALSIFICATION AND TAMPERING**

Be advised, in accord with §25-8-610, C.R.S., that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under the Colorado Water Quality Control Act or who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this article is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

**POTENTIAL CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES**

You are also advised that any person who violates any provision of the Colorado Water Quality Control Act (the "Act"), §§25-8-101 to 703, C.R.S., or of any permit issued under the Act, or any control regulation promulgated pursuant to the Act, or any final cease and desist order or clean-up order issued by the Division shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars per day for each day during which such violation occurs. Further, any person who recklessly, knowingly, intentionally, or with criminal negligence discharges any pollutant into any state waters commits criminal pollution if such discharge is made without a permit, if a permit is required by the Act for such discharge, or if such discharge is made in violation of any permit issued under the Act or in violation of any Cease and Desist Order or Clean-up Order issued by the Division. By virtue of issuing this Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order, the State has not waived its right to bring an action for penalties under §§25-8-608 and 609, C.R.S, and may bring such action in the future.

**RELEASE OR DISCHARGE NOTIFICATION**

Pursuant to §25-8-601, C.R.S., you are further advised that any person engaged in any operation or activity which results in a spill or discharge of oil or other substance which may cause pollution of the waters of the state, shall notify the Division of the discharge. If said person fails to so notify, said person is guilty of a misdemeanor, and may be fined or imprisoned or both.

**EFFECT OF ORDER**

Nothing herein contained, particularly those portions requiring certain acts to be performed within a certain time, shall be construed as a permit or license, either to violate any provisions of the public health laws and regulations promulgated thereunder, or to make any discharge into state waters. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude other individuals, cities, towns, counties, or duly constituted political subdivisions of the state from the exercise of their respective rights to suppress nuisances or to preclude any other lawful actions by such entities or the State.

For further clarification of your rights and obligations under this Notice of Violation / Cease and Desist Order you are advised to consult the Colorado Water Quality Control Act, §§25-8-101 to 703, C.R.S., and regulations promulgated thereunder, 5 CCR 1002.

Issued at Denver, Colorado, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2008.

**FOR THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**

  
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Lori M. Gerzina, Section Manager  
Compliance Assurance and Data Management Section  
WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION