



To: Weld County Commissioners;

November 6, 2017

**RE: Written Statement on the Simon Contractors Asphalt Plant**

**Good afternoon,**

My name is Tom Peterson and I'm the Executive Director of the Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association. We are the statewide trade association representing the asphalt industry of Colorado. I am not here today to comment on emissions from an asphalt plant.

Here are several points to consider:

1. Approximately 25% to 40% of all asphalt plants in Colorado are directly adjacent to residential or agricultural land.
2. Once asphalt is hardened it is inert. Asphalt is used as a liner for hydraulic dams and for environmental reservoirs.
3. The primary emission from an asphalt plant is steam that is generated from the combustion of moisture from the aggregates as they are super-heated. The steam dissipates and should not be confused with any emissions containing volatile organic compounds.
4. The primary fuel source for this plant will be natural gas. This is a commitment of the applicant. Natural gas is the cleanest and most energy efficient fuel source and will allow the plant to operate at a fraction of what is allowed by their operating permit as set by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, Air Pollution Control Division, Stationary Sources Program.
5. The health effect of emissions is directly related to exposure. The impact and health risk from an asphalt plant changes with distance from the site. Based on EPS studies, at 500' there is negligible to no impact on ambient air quality. In other words, the air quality at 500', let alone 1000' to 2000' is the same with or without the plant.
6. The regulatory authorities – EPA and state environmental programs – have studied the health effect of asphalt plant emissions. Based on the amount of asphalt produced and exposure level, they have concluded that the effect is less than exposure at

1. Fuel filling stations
2. Open pit fireplaces in your backyard
3. Open flame restaurants

7. Over the past 30 years, asphalt production has increased by 250%, at the same time volatile emissions have decreased by 97%. The reduction is the point that the US EPA has delisted asphalt plants.

8. Using best management practices – including the use of clean natural gas and combined with using counter-flow plant configuration, emissions from asphalt plants can be minimized and health effects all but eliminated.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Peterson".

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