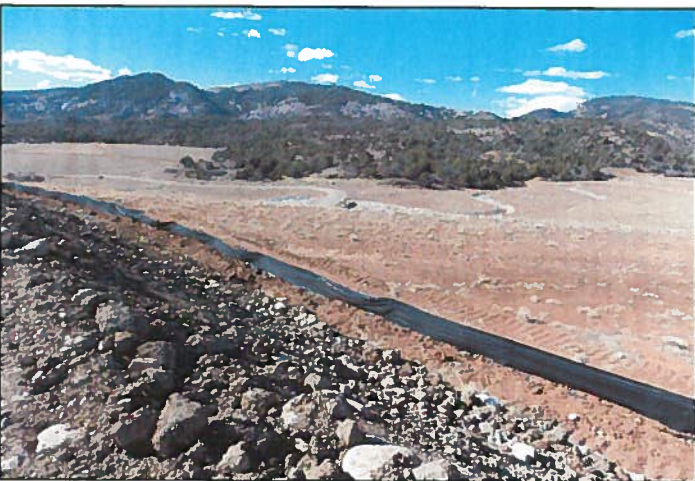
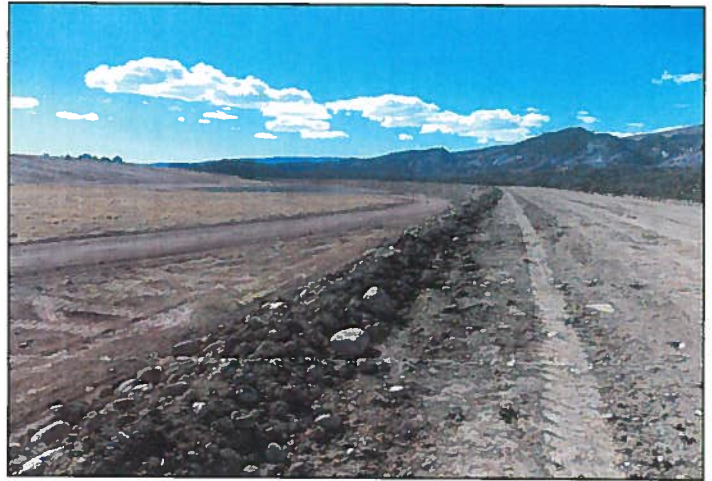


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

PHOTOGRAPHS



Inspection Contact Address

Matt Carnahan
Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba Four Corners Materials
6699 County Road 521
Bayfield, CO 81122

CC:

Tyler Artichoker: Bureau of Reclamation
Russ Howard: Animas-La Plata Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Association
Victoria Schmidt: La Plata County Planning



Mon, Mar 3, 2014 at 9:17 AM

Cc: Jeremy Franz - DNR <jeremy.franz@state.co.us>, Bill McCormick - DNR <Bill.McCormick@state.co.us>, Kate Pickford - DNR <kate.pickford@state.co.us>, matt.camahan@oldcastle-materials.com, Rege Leach - DNR <rege.leach@state.co.us>

On Wednesday, March 26th, I conducted a site visit to the isolation berm at the Animas Glacier Gravel Pit. Matt Camahan of Four Corners Materials, Kate Pickford from your office, and water commissioner Jeff Titus (DWR) accompanied me on the site visit. Prior to the site visit, I reviewed the information that you provided to our office, including the "Animas Glacier Gravel Pit Drainage Report - Amendment 1" prepared by Russell Planning and Engineering. Based on observations made during the site visit and the drainage report, it is my conclusion that the isolation berm does not present a dam safety hazard if the mining operations are conducted as described in the report, and as such will not be regulated by this office as a jurisdictional dam.


fax 970-259-0944



COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY
MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT
PHONE: (303) 866-3567

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has conducted an inspection of the mining operation noted below. This report documents observations concerning compliance with the terms of the permit and applicable rules and regulations of the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

MINE NAME: Animas Glacier Gravel (AGG)	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2011-028	MINERAL: Gravel and sand	COUNTY: La Plata
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Kate A. Pickford	INSP. DATE: February 26, 2014	INSP. TIME: 14:00
OPERATOR: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba Four Corners N	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Matt Carnahan	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: High Priority	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$78,788.37
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 27, 2014

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection. The mine operation was found to be in full compliance with Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials and/or for Hard Rock, Metal and Designated Mining Operations. Any person engaged in any mining operation shall notify the office of any failure or imminent failure, as soon as reasonably practicable after such person has knowledge of such condition or of any impoundment, embankment, or slope that poses a reasonable potential for danger to any persons or property or to the environment; or any environmental protection facility designed to contain or control chemicals or waste which are acid or toxic-forming, as identified in the permit.

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>

Y = Inspected and found in compliance / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted relative to a technical revision that was submitted by Four Corners Materials (FCM), addressing storm water management issues. In addition to the operator, Matt Carnahan, also present at this inspection were Matt Gavin, Dam Safety Engineer, Office of the State Engineer (SEO), and Jeff Titus, District 30 Water Commissioner.

A major focus of this inspection was a berm that was constructed by FCM, designed to retain stormwater on the north phase of the project site. The berm is approximately 35 feet wide at the base, 12 feet wide across the top and up to 9 and one half feet tall at the tallest points. It runs along the west edge of the terrace, situated above the drainage structures related to the spillway for the Animas-La Plata Project (ALP) dam. The top of the berm is flat and is easily accessible by vehicle. Based on the visible material along the flanks of the berm, it appears to be constructed of silty clay with a high content of large cobbles. A silt fence is installed along part of the base on the west side of the berm. Mr. Carnahan also identified some waddles that FCM had installed in the drainage leading down to the ALP structures to restrict the transport of sediments. Located within the boundaries of the berm is a large basin that FCM installed to assist in containment of water within the berm structure.

Tim Cazier, Division staff engineer, had contacted the SEO regarding this structure, questioning its classification with regard to a jurisdictional dam. This question arose due to the containment capacity of 224 acre-feet, and the height of the berm itself. After an assessment of the location, Mr. Gavin indicated that he needed to do some calculations but stated he is not inclined to regulate this structure as a jurisdictional dam because, although the capacity would categorize it as such, the precipitation history in this region results in amounts that are a fraction of the amounts necessary to fill the containment structure. In fact, the technical revision submittal indicates that it would take 36 consecutive 100-year events to fill the structure with water. Mr. Gavin indicated the he would send an e-mail to the Division conveying his opinion related to the structure.

Mr. Carnahan indicated that FCM may make some modifications to the berm structure but wanted the Division to review and approve them prior to committing to the work. The Division requested that FCM submit additional information related to the structure and proposed mining at the site, including:

1. Design specifications regarding how the berm was constructed, including depths of lifts, how they were compacted and how they were keyed in.
2. Current dimension of the berm structure, including maximum height.
3. Proposed changes to the berm structure, including grading of the slope, final slope and final seeding plans.
4. Dimensions of the containment pond located within the bermed area.
5. The proposed mining plan for the south phase of the project, consisting of the area to the south of the bermed portion, specifically addressing how storm water will be contained.