




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: Blue Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1981-207	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell	INSP. DATE: October 28, 2015	INSP. TIME: 09:00
OPERATOR: Western Slope Aggregates, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Sean Mallow	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$889,606.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 19, 2015

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Availability Of Records

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The current mine plan and reclamation plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-112 (1)(c)(VI) and C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (1). The operator needs to clarify the total number of acres included within the permit as the result of AM-1 approval.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify that the permitted acreage should be 142.7 acres as the result of AM-1 approval by the corrective action date. Provide corrected maps depicting the correct acreage.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 1/18/16

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety normal monitoring program. The Blue Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 142.7 permitted acres of which approximately 80 acres are currently disturbed. It is located approximately 2.5 miles northeast of Carbondale, CO and is accessed from Highway 82. Sean Mallow represented Western Slope Aggregates, Inc. and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

The mine identification sign and affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance with Rule 3.1.12. A wire fence delineates the majority of the permit boundary and t-posts with signs delineate the rest. The sign is posted at access road off of Highway 82 as well as at the permit boundary entrance in several spots. The majority of the mining operation is still within the original 82.7 acre permit boundary.

The access road is paved up to the office where the load scale is located. In this area there is also a large mechanic shop and a few other small sheds without cement foundations. Several trucks and excess pieces of equipment are lined up along with a neatly organized 'bone yard'. A cement lined secondary containment securely holds three fuel tanks.

One large fuel tank in a cement secondary containment is located on pit floor next to cement batch plant. The batch plant is operated by Casey Concert and permitted to remain post-mining. 8.47 acres surrounding the batch plant will remain industrial, 5.12 acres will remain roads and the remainder will be reclaimed back to pastureland/rangeland.

The pit is excavated to a maximum depth of 90 ft and no ground water has been encountered. Currently most slopes are stabilized with vegetation and sloped to a 2:1. The top portions visible from the surrounding areas are sloped 3:1 and will require no further reclamation. Upon final reclamation slope will be re-contoured to a 3:1 in all areas except mining area 1 which will be 2.5:1.

Several large topsoil and overburden berms are stored along the top of the pit walls. They are well stabilized and thriving with vegetation. Very few weeds were observed considering the wet year we had. The operator is encouraged to continue to follow their approved weed management plan.

Several stockpiles of processed material are stored within the pit floor. The site is stable with no evidence of erosion. All stockpile slopes are no steeper than a 2:1. Overall the operation is very well organized and an effective use of space.

Power to equipment and plant is provided by electrical lines. Two wash plant ponds are separated by a berm, one clean, one dirty. Two portable plants are located on the south side of the pit.

Water is supplied by a well. A small well house is located nearby. Also the Basin Ditch is used for dust suppression.

Recently cleared overburden and topsoil is stored in the newly constructed dike that hold the Basin Ditch which irrigates the adjacent hay fields. Mining is moving northwest into the areas expanded under AM-1. Only stripping of overburden has occurred in the expanded area to date.

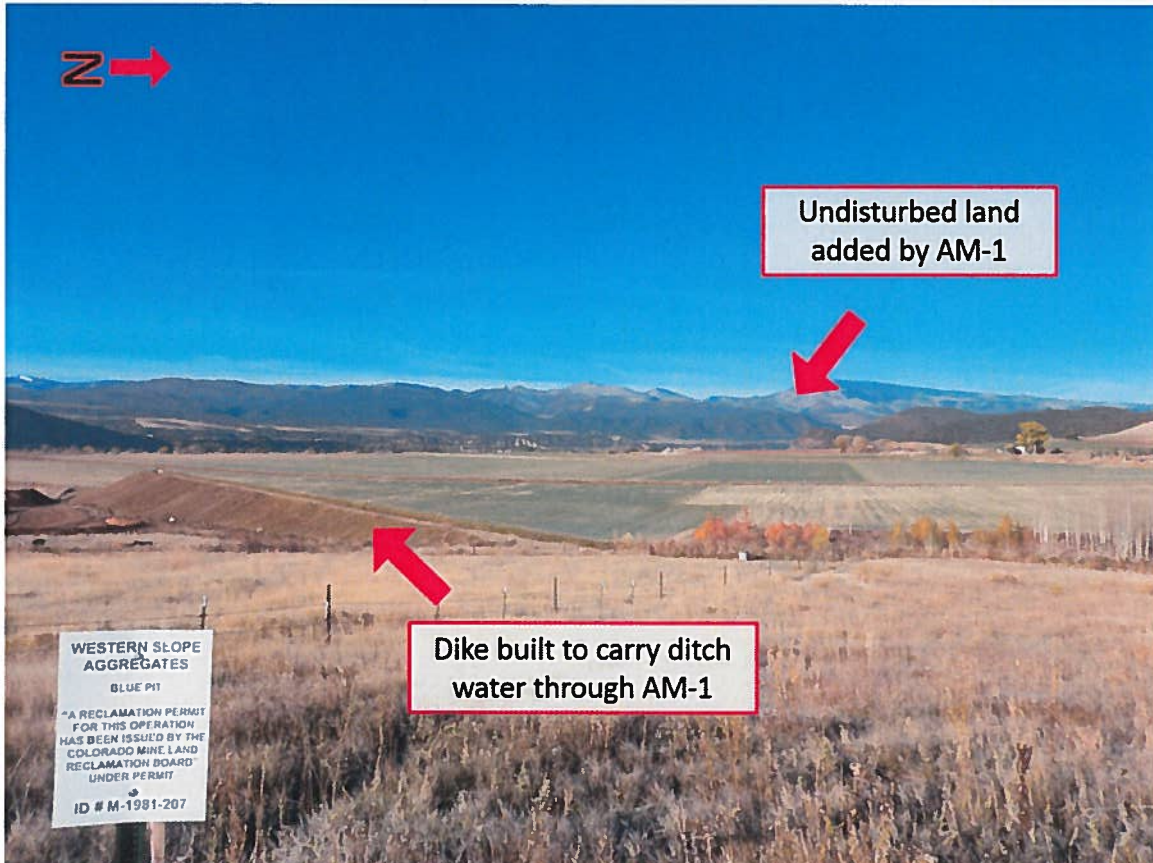
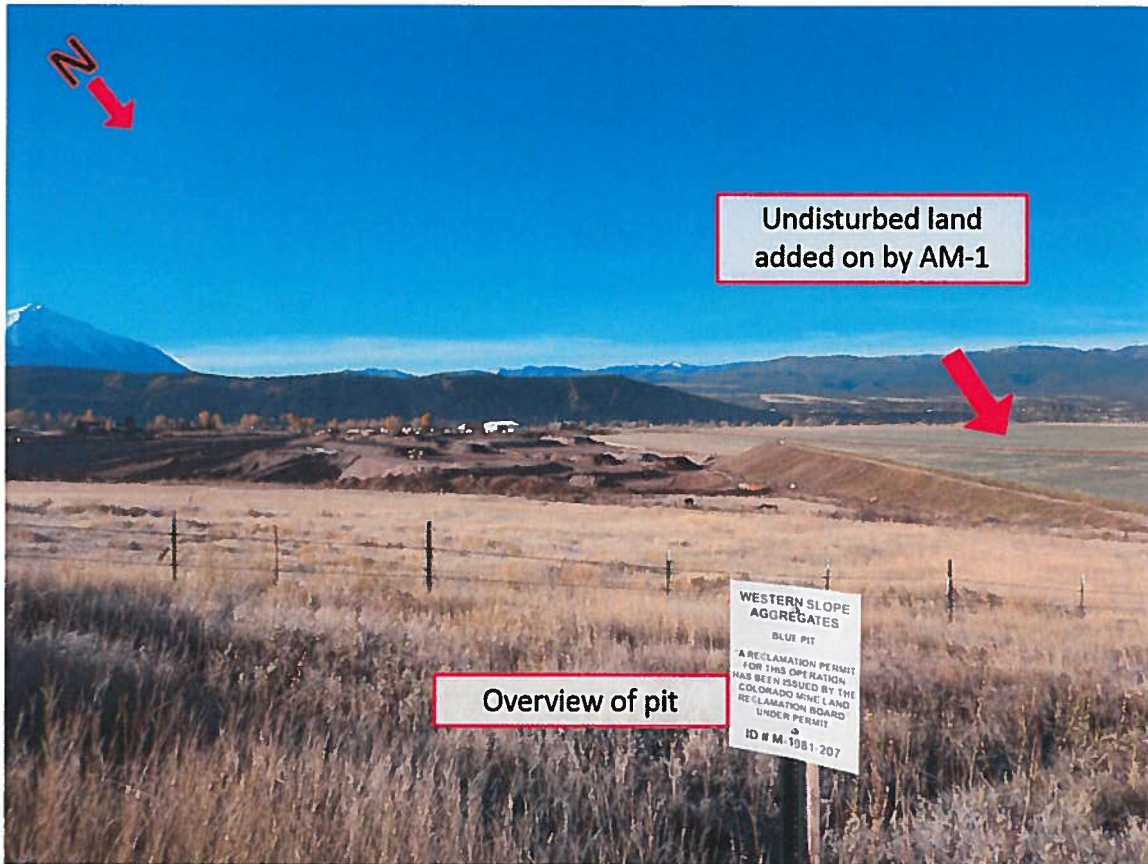
In reviewing documentation for this inspection staff discovered administrative discrepancies in the acreage additions made under amendment (AM-1). AM-1 requested an additional 60 acres be added. In the amendment request the permit boundary was to go from 82.70 acres to 142.7 acres which is an increase of 60 acres. The application for referenced 88.7 acres as the total permit. The Division staff sent a letter requesting that acreage be corrected and as a typo wrote "The addition of 60.0 acres added to 82.7 acres will amount to 174.7 acres. The corrected application packet and introduction both correctly state that the new total acreage would be 142.7 acres. However in the remainder of the narrative and exhibits of the amendment application 146.87 acres was the referenced as new acreage. Maps also depict this 146.87 acres as the permit boundary. Staff believes this mistake may result from identifying the land parcel acreage as the permit boundary acreage. This discrepancy is cited as a problem for availability of records. Please submit in the form of a Technical Revision (TR) clarification that the permitted acreage should be 142.7 acres as the result of AM-1 approval. Also please provide maps depicting the correct acreage.

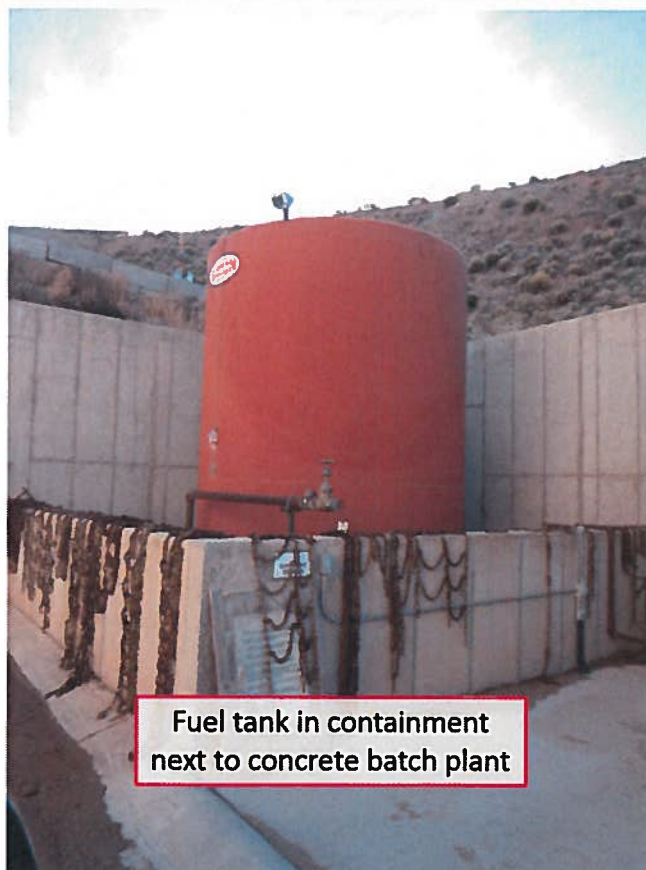
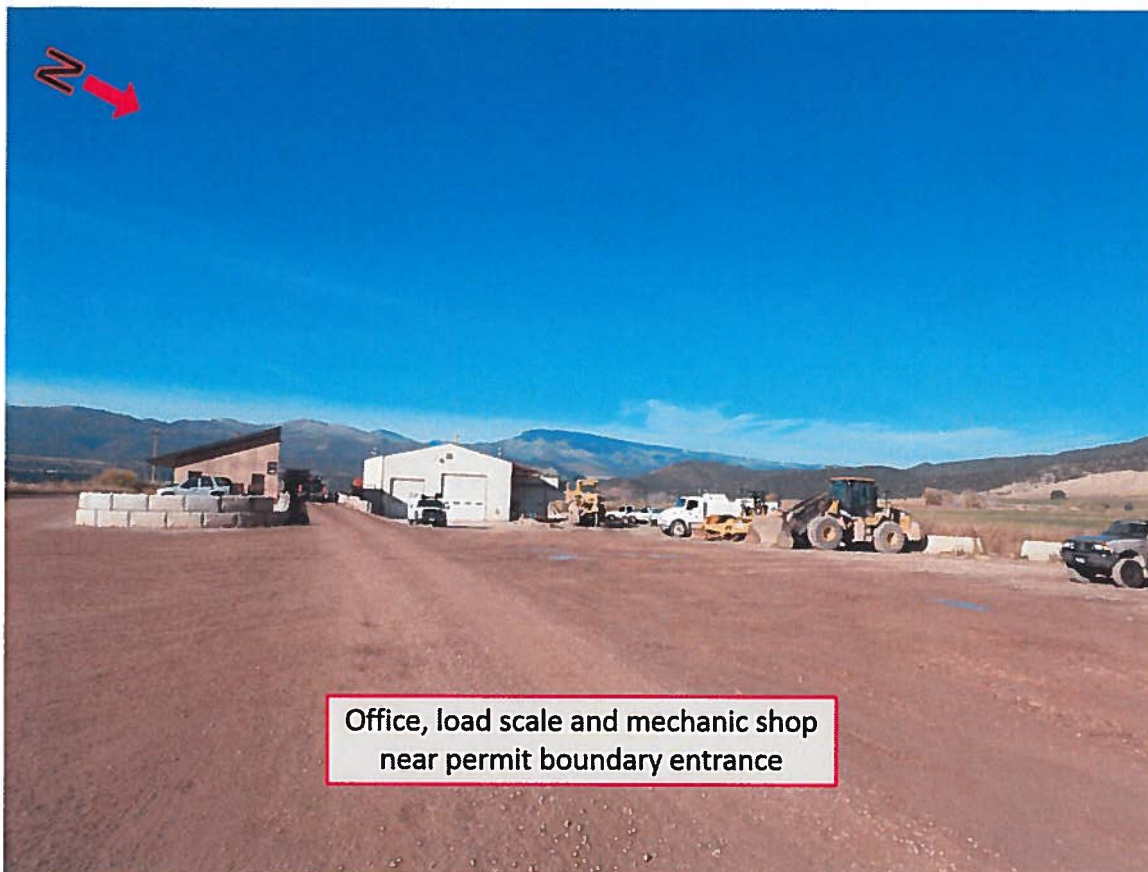
In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately, reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan the Division will be updating the reclamation cost estimate. A copy of the staff calculations will be sent under separate cover.

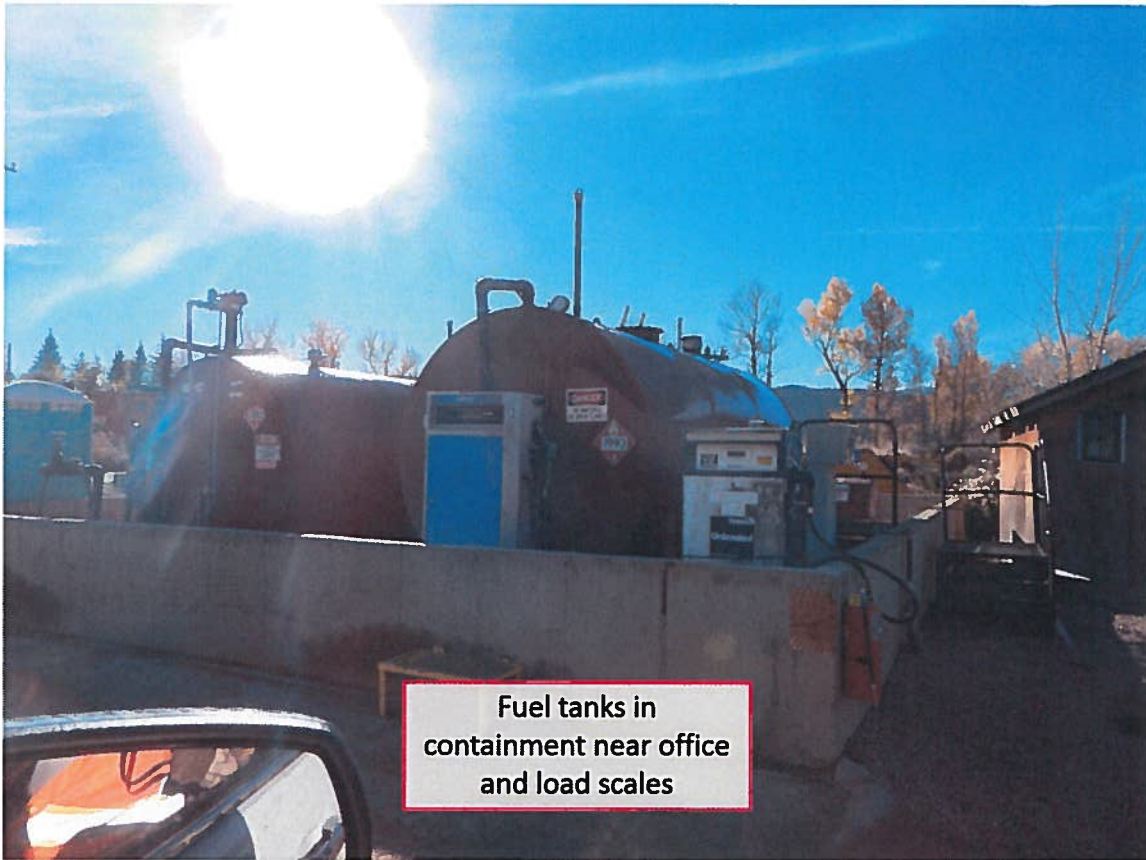
Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@ state.co.us

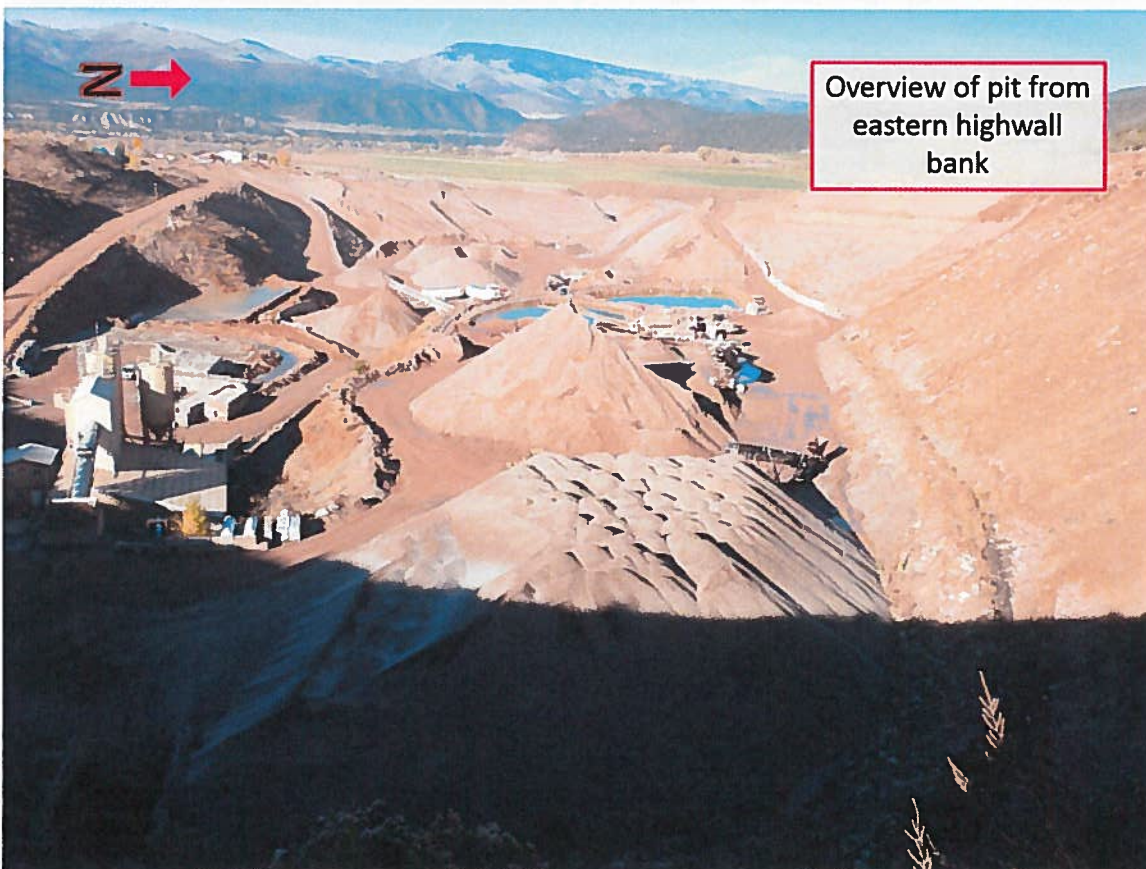
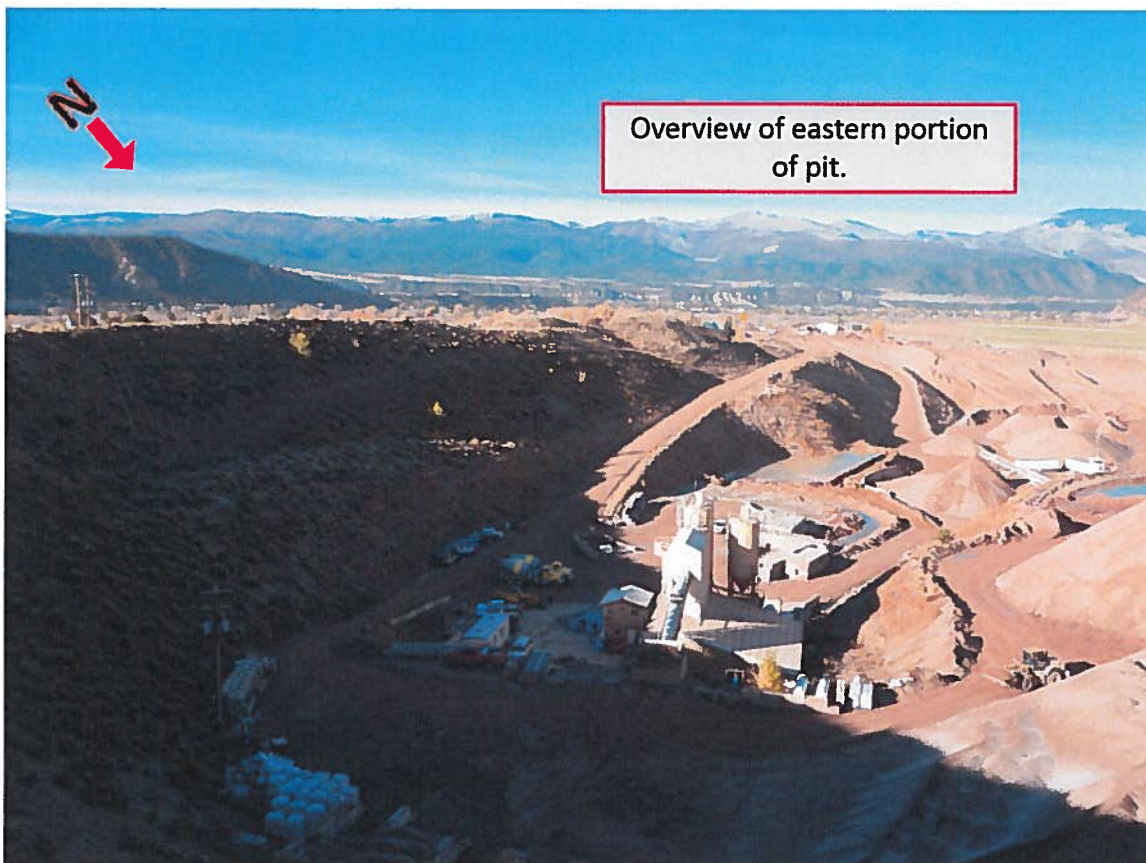
PHOTOGRAPHS

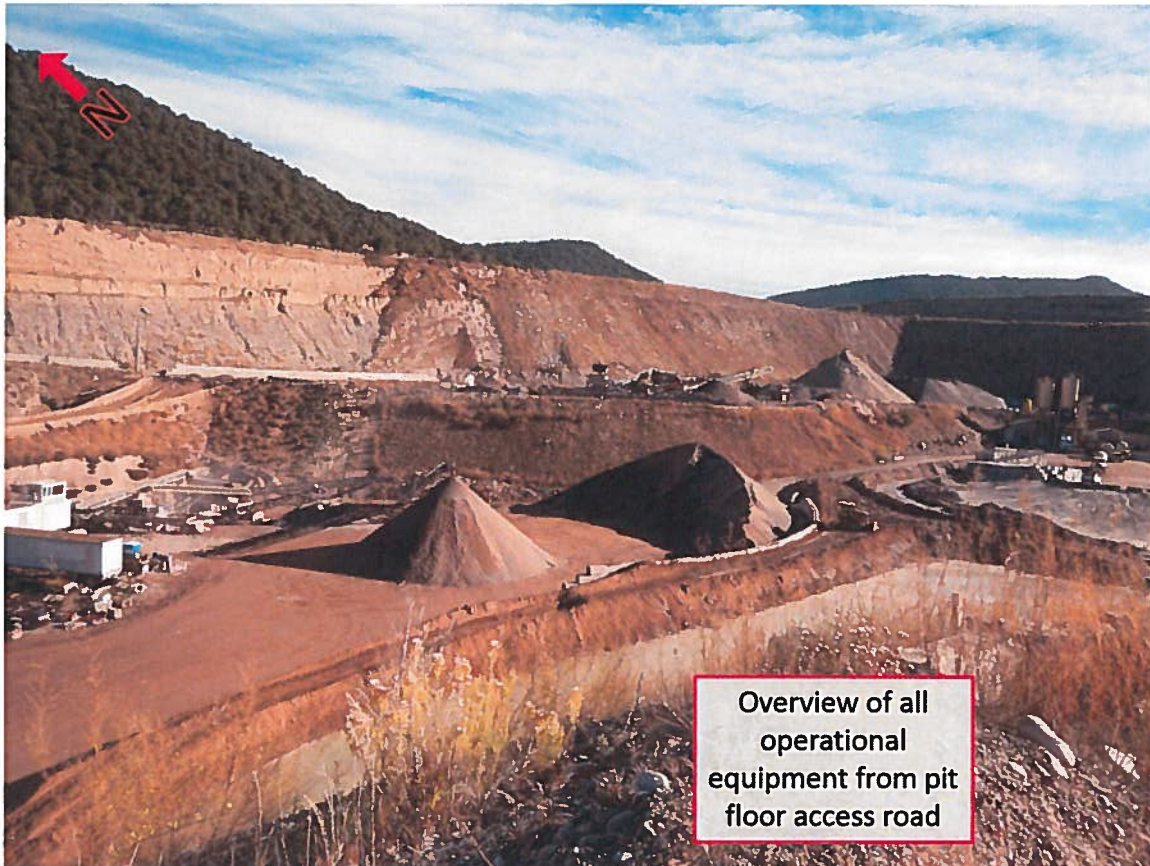














GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

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

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

Inspection Contact Address

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Western Slope Aggregates, Inc.
304 Highway 133
Carbondale, CO 81623

Enclosure

EC: Russ Means, Senior EPS/ Field Office Supervisor, Grand Junction DRMS