




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Barton Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2000-149	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Logan
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Elliott R. Russell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 15, 2015	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 15:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> DUMB AND DUMBER TRUCKING, LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Brian Barton	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$49,700.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> December 28, 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:** Signs & Markers

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: The mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Rule 3.1.12(1).

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following:

- the name of the operator
- a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board
- the permit number

The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 1/27/16**

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) conducted an inspection of the Barton Pit (Permit File No. M-2000-149), a Construction Material Regular 112c Operation Reclamation Permit with 65.29 permitted acres, with a maximum-allowed disturbance of 14.59 acres (Phases 1 & 2) under the current financial warranty amount held. The approved post mining land use is Pastureland. The mine is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Sterling, Colorado. Elliott Russell, with the Division, inspected the site. Brian Barton represented the Operator and accompanied the inspection. This inspection was carried out as a part of the Division's normal monitoring program.

At 1500 hours, the Division met Mr. Barton at the mine site, located a quarter of a mile west of the intersection of County Road 53 and County Road 10. At the time of the inspection the temperature was warm, the sky was clear, and the ground was dry. The mine site identification sign was posted at the entrance to the site, but was illegible and not in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1). This has been cited as a problem requiring a new sign to be posted (please see page 1 of this report for more information on this problem and its corrective action). The approved Phase 1 and 2 boundary was delineated by large metal posts and the entire permit being delineated by a fence line. The site was not currently being mined at the time of the inspection, but there was evidence of recent mining and reclamation activities; a front-end loader, tractor, drill seed, and RV office was observed on-site.

The site consist of a large "horse-shoe" excavated area in the south west portion of the permit. Topsoil and overburden had been stockpiled in various areas around the crest of the excavation. Slopes varied from near-vertical (southern and western portion), to angle of repose (eastern portion), and to 3H:1V (southwestern portion). The Operator is reminded that the permit calls for all slopes to be kept at or flatter than 3H:1V and anything steeper would need to be requested through a Technical Revision (TR), which would likely lead to an increase of the financial warranty to account for the additional cost of grading the slope. When mining is advanced, the Operator will need to keep a 3H:1V slope instead of the vertical highwall. Any deviation from this will need to be handled through a TR.

The current financial warranty was reviewed as a part of this inspection and was found to be adequate to cover the cost of reclamation of the site disturbance at this time. The Operator is reminded that they need to contact the Division for approval prior to disturbing any new Phases. The request shall include the estimated reclamation costs that would be required for opening the additional Phase. The Division will review and calculate a new Financial Warranty amount, issuing a Surety Increase revision if necessary. Once the additional amount is posted the Operator will be approved for the new Phase. (Please note that the Operator may, at any point throughout the life of the mining operation, request a Surety Reduction for completed reclamation tasks or an Acreage Reduction for portions of the permit that have achieved final reclamation.)

The Division observed an empty fuel tank near the RV office. If this is used to store fuel on-site, the tank will need to be doubled-walled or have adequate secondary containment of 110%.

The Division observed a small half-acre disturbance in Phase 6. The Operator stated that this area had recently been graded and seeded and he was planning on removing or flattening out the remaining mounds of dirt. During the next inspection, if vegetation is not established on this area, the Division may include the remaining grading and re-seeding tasks in the reclamation cost estimate.

The Division also observed a small area south of the permit that had recently been disturbed, graded, and seeded. The Operator explained that the adjacent landowner had requested a small ravine be filled in so a vehicle could travel along the southern side of the fence line. No further action is needed because the area didn't appear to be disturbed by mining activities, but the Division kindly requests the Operator to inform the Division prior to doing adjacent earthwork in the future to reduce any confusion with possible violations.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at [elliott.russell@state.co.us](mailto:elliott.russell@state.co.us).

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Out-of-compliance permit identification sign at the site entrance; looking northwest.



Topsoil stockpiled along crest of the western highwall; looking east.





Pit overview from; looking west from the eastern highwall crest.



Active mining face; looking south.





Disturbance located in Phase 6; looking north.



Earthwork located south of the permit boundary; looking east.

### GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</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>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</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>PB</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>NA</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) SEDIMENT CONTROL----- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>PB</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / **PB = Problem cited** / PV = Possible violation cited

#### Inspection Contact Address

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