



**COLORADO**

Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety


Department of Natural Resources

## 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> Everhart Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1997-081	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Pueblo
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Tyler V. O'Donnell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> March 15, 2016	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:15
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Pueblo County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Chuck Colletti and Andrew Ruybal	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Windy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> July 14, 2016

### 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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>NA</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>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</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>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</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 routine monitoring inspection was conducted by Tyler O'Donnell (Division). Pueblo County (Operator), was represented by Chuck Colletti and Andrew Ruybal during the inspection.

The Everhart Pit is located in Pueblo County approximately 20 miles west-southwest of Pueblo, Colorado. The Everhart Pit is a 280-acre 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit, with a maximum allowed disturbed area of 10 acres. The permit was issued in March of 1998. The primary commodity mined at the site is sand and gravel for road base. The approved post-mining land use is rangeland. The mine site was surrounded by the following land uses: rural residential and rangeland.

During the inspection, the sky was clear and the ground was dry. The mining operation was not active during the inspection. At the present time it appears that the mining operation has affected approximately 9 acres throughout the life of mine. It appears that the Operator is conducting partial concurrent reclamation. Portions of the affected lands have been backfilled and graded. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection.

### **Acid And Toxic Materials:**

There appeared to be an adequate secondary containment structure built around the petroleum storage tank. The secondary containment structure appeared to have enough volume to contain all contents of the fuel tank, plus an additional 10% or more capacity beyond the total capacity of stored petroleum products.

### **Backfilling and Grading:**

The mining operation was expanding to the south and west. There were several mining faces scattered around the site. The recent mining faces ranged from near vertical to 1.5H:1V. The Operator was expanding the pit deeper in the southwest corner. The operator was in the process of backfilling and grading portions of the pit. Most of the backfilling work was taking place in the northwestern portion of Phase 1 affected land.

### **Hydrologic Balance:**

The site was dry, no exposed groundwater was observed during the inspection. There appeared to be no significant impacts to the prevailing hydrologic balance.

### **Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:**

The operation appeared to be following the approved Mine Plan. All mining activity appeared to be within the approved boundary. The Operator is nearing the maximum allowed disturbance of 10 acres. If the Operator plans on affecting more than the maximum allowed affected area of 10 acres, the Operator will need to file a Technical Revision (TR) to the approved permit to increase the maximum allowed disturbed area. If the Operator does not plan on affecting more than 10 acres, the Operator shall reclaim portions of the site prior to advancing the mining operation.

### **Roads:**

All haul roads were stable and appeared to be well maintained.

### **Revegetation:**

There was plant growth throughout the affected lands. The growth in the affected areas appeared to be volunteer vegetation, comprised primarily of annual weeds, and native grasses. No noxious weeds were observed. The Operator is advised to continue to monitor and treat noxious weeds if the weeds appear within the permit boundary.

Erosion/Sedimentation:

There was no evidence of excessive erosion (gullies, or sediment fans). There were a few rills observed on the eastern faces of the pit, there slopes appeared to be partially graded, the slopes may be re worked following the advancement of mining. There was no risk of the rills advancing off site, all sediment is ending up in the pit floor. When completing final reclamation the Operator will need to stabilize the site to prevent excessive erosion.

Signs and Markers:

A mine I.D. sign required by Rule 3.1.12(1), was posted at the entrance to the mine site. The affected land boundary appeared to be marked by t-post and a barbwire fence.

Topsoil:

There was adequate topsoil stockpiled on site to conduct the approved reclamation plan. There was a well vegetated topsoil stockpile in the southern portion of phase 1. The topsoil stockpiles had adequate vegetative cover to protect the topsoil from erosion.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Chuck Colletti  
Pueblo County  
33601 United Ave  
Pueblo, CO 81001

cc: Wally Erickson, DRMS

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Recent mining in the southwest corner of phase 1.



**Photo 2:** Recent backfilling and grading in the northwestern corner of phase 1 affected land.





**Photo 3:** Recent backfilling and grading in the northwestern portion of phase 1 affected land.



**Photo 4:** Topsoil stockpile.