




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: Fox No. 1 Clay Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1977-219	MINERAL: Clay (general) and sandstone (silica, stone, quartzite)	COUNTY: Pueblo
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Tyler V. O'Donnell	INSP. DATE: March 16, 2016	INSP. TIME: 11:00
OPERATOR: Summit Brick & Tile Co.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Mat Welte	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$83,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 26, 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>Y</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>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>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>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). Summit Brick and Tile Co. (Operator), was represented by Mat Welte during the inspection.

The Fox No. 1 Clay Pit is located in Pueblo County 20 miles southwest of Pueblo, Colorado. The Fox No. 1 Clay Pit is a 40.30-acre 112c Construction Materials Reclamation Permit, with a maximum allowed affected area of 40 acres. The original 110c permit was issued in March of 1978. The primary commodity mined at the site is clay, for making bricks, the secondary commodity being mined is sandstone. The Permittee mines and remove the sandstone exposing the clay. 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 active during the inspection. It appears that the site sees frequent activity, primarily hauling out of stockpiles. At the present time it appears that the mining operation has affected approximately 38 acres throughout the life of mine. It appears that the Operator is conducting partial concurrent reclamation. Portions of the affected lands have been backfilled with waste rock and overburden. Approximately 3 acres along the western side of the pit have been revegetated, following final earthwork reclamation. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection.

Backfilling and Grading:

The mining operation was expanding deeper to the east. There were several stockpiles of clay, and sandstone scattered throughout the affected lands. There were several small active mining faces scattered around the site. Many of the active mining faces have created vertical highwalls. The highwalls ranged in height from about 10 to 30 feet high. The Division estimated that there was approximately 1,600 total linear feet of highwalls. When completing final reclamation, the Operator will need to grade all slopes to 3H:1V or flatter to comply with the approved reclamation plan.

Financial Warranty:

The current amount of financial warranty the Operator has on deposit with the State is \$83,000. The reclamation cost estimate for this site was updated during the file review for this inspection. It was determined that the current required financial warranty amount is adequate.

Hydrologic Balance:

The site was predominantly dry, no exposed groundwater was observed during the inspection. There was a small amount of storm water captured in the southeast corner of the pit. When conducting final grading for reclamation the Operator will need to try to control surface drainage to create as much positive drainage as possible. There was no evidence of excessive erosion. 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.

Roads:

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

Reclamation Success:

There was an approximate 3 acre area along the western side of the affected land, where the Operator has begun to complete reclamation. The area has been backfilled, graded, has had topsoil spread over it and has been revegetated. The 3 acre area has begun to establish well with desired vegetative cover. The area has begun to fill in with desired vegetative cover. The 3 acres appeared to be stable, no excessive erosion was observed.

Revegetation:

There was sparse plant growth throughout the affected lands, with the exception of 3 acres where reclamation is taking place. The growth in the affected area appeared to be primarily volunteer vegetation, comprised of native vegetation, native grasses and a few annual weeds. A few common mullein were observed throughout the site. Most of the mullein were growing in the pit, a few plants were observed on the area in reclamation. Due to the limited number of mullein observed, the Division will not cite a problem for failure to control noxious weeds. However, the Operator is encouraged to continue to monitor and treat noxious weeds as they appear in the permit boundary. If the population of mullein increases the Division may cite a problem during a future inspection.

Erosion/Sedimentation:

There was no evidence of excessive erosion (gullies, or sediment fans).

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-posts and a barbwire fence.

Topsoil:

There was adequate topsoil stockpiled on site to conduct the approved reclamation plan. There were several partially vegetated topsoil stockpiles and topsoil berms within the affected lands. The topsoil stockpiles and berms had adequate vegetative cover to protect topsoil from erosion.

Inspection Contact Address

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cc: Wally Erickson, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Active mining operations and recent product stockpiles area.



Photo 1: Recent mining operations, sandstone has been mined off exposing the clay.



Photo 3: Portion of the 3 acres undergoing final reclamation.



Photo 4: topsoil stockpile.