



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.

MINE NAME: Hocker Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2004-063	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: La Plata
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Lucas J. West	INSP. DATE: September 15, 2016	INSP. TIME: 11:00
OPERATOR: Hocker Construction, LLP	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Roy Hocker	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$26,676.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 28, 2016

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: Financial Warranty

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The financial warranty is not adequate to reclaim the site in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. This is a failure to maintain the proper financial warranty amount to complete reclamation of the affected lands pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-117(4)(b) of the Act.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit adequate financial warranty, as determined by the Division. The Division will be sending a separate surety increase notice to the operator regarding the increase of the financial warranty. The operator will have **60 days** from the date on the surety increase notice to post the additional financial warranty.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 11/28/16

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Hocker Pit is an active 112(c) permit located in La Plata County. The site consists of 81.7 permitted acres located just south of Highway 151 just east of Ignacio, CO at approximately 6680 Feet in elevation. Access to the site is controlled by a locked gate. The Division currently holds \$26,676.00 in financial warranty for the site. The financial warranty was recalculated and found to be insufficient to achieve reclamation of the site. Enclosed with this report is the Notice of Surety increase and associated Reclamation Cost Estimate Worksheets. The operator has **60 days** from the date of this letter to post the additional required financial warranty. Six Photos accompany this report to illustrate current site conditions.

Proper mine identification signage was posted at the entrance to the site, as seen in Photo One. The permit boundaries were clearly outlined with a mixture of T-posts, fence lines and earthen berms. All disturbances are contained within the permitted areas. The active mining area located in phase two appeared to be stable and in good condition. The mining activity has left the slopes at approximately 3H: 1V or shallower and all slopes appear to be stable. Photo Two shows the area of activity. Several stockpiles of overburden was observed on the pit floor. All stockpiles are in good condition and appear to be stable. Photo Three shows some of the stockpiles which are well vegetated with volunteer species. Material stockpiles area noted adjacent to the haul road that runs through the site and topsoil stockpiles are located at various locations throughout the site. Although the site was not active during the inspection, several pieces of equipment were on site. An area of the site is also being used as storage for trailers and various scrap items, which are being stored in a neat and orderly fashion. This is not being considered a problem at this time and the area can be seen in Photo Four.

Several areas throughout the site, approximately 12 acres, has undergone reclamation. The grading of the area appears to be stable and no erosional features were noted. The area has also been vegetated, which is adequate in both density and diversity. The vegetation also shows signs of self-propagation with multiple years growth observed. Photos Four and Five show the reclaimed area. Evidence of chemical treatment of noxious weeds was observed, and conversations with the operator indicate that the weed management plan is active and on-going.

Two areas within the site are being used for storage of construction debris. A Technical Revision was completed to allow for the importation and on site disposal of the material. Photos Five and Six show the areas containing the debris. On site discussions with the operator indicate that he intends to recycle the metal in both areas, which includes protruding rebar from the concrete, prior to covering the piles with an earthen cap. The earthen cap will also be topsoiled and revegetated upon final reclamation.

The overall footprint of the site was in good condition, and no problems or possible violations were observed on site, all responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by email at lucas.west@state.co.us or by phone at (970)-243-6368.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo One: Proper mine ID signage located at the entrance to the site.



Photo Two: View southeast showing an section of the mining area. Mining activity has recently only consisted of hauling from existing stockpiles.





Photo Five: View north, showing one of the piles of construction debris to be disposed of on site. The disposal has been approved through the Technical Revision Process.



Photo Six: View Northeast, showing the other pile of construction debris to be disposed of on site. The operator indicated he intends to recycle all useable metal from the pile prior to final disposal.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

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

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>PB</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</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>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</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

Inspection Contact Address

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Enclosure: Notice of Surety Increase, SI-01 and Reclamation Cost Estimate Worksheets

CC: Russ Means Senior Environmental Protection Specialist