



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: Mesita Hill Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1977-227	MINERAL: Volcanics (Ash, Cind	COUNTY: Costilla
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Lucas J. West	INSP. DATE: October 6, 2016	INSP. TIME: 12:30
OPERATOR: Super Ex. LLC.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Bill Tezak	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$67,462.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: October 26, 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: Signs & Markers

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The mine identification sign posted at the entrance of the mine site however was not updated with the current operator's information. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule.

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; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted within 60 days of the date of this report, December 23, 2016.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 12/23/16

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety. The Mesita Hill Pit is an active 112 (C) permit located in Costilla County, two miles northwest of Mesita, CO at 7760 Feet in Elevation. The site lies just off County Road H and public accessed is controlled by a locked gate. The site consists of 201 permitted acres with approximately 110 Acres disturbed. The division currently holds \$67,462.00 in financial warranty for the site. A reclamation cost estimate was not performed at this time due to a pending amendment which will likely alter the required financial warranty amount. Six Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The mine identification signage was posted at the entrance however it was severely sun-faded and was not updated when the permit was transferred with the recently completed Succession of Operator. The sign that is currently posted can be seen in Photo One. The operator shall, within **60 days** of the date of this report, 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; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that the sign has been posted no later than **December 23, 2016**.

The site was not active during the inspection, however several pieces of equipment including dump trucks, conveyors and a dozer were present during the inspection. Very little mining activity has taken place since the completion of the Succession of Operator (SO), the majority of the activity has been site clean-up and investigatory work. Several stockpiles of materials of different colors, as well as the crusher fines and topsoil stockpiles were observed on site. Examples of the stockpiles can be seen in Photos Two and Three. The previous operator had active excavations taking place in several small pits throughout the site, however the current operator is focusing on the main pit near the center of the site. The excavation area can be seen in photo Four and on site discussions with the operator indicate that backfilling of certain areas of the main pit are on-going. A large pad area was used by the previous operator as the location of the crusher which was observed to be in good condition and appeared to be stable. The area, shown in Photo Five, was sparsely vegetated despite having been seeded in recent years.

The site contains a large concrete pad with containment bins which is currently being utilized as a work area. The work area is in good condition and appears to be stable Shown in Photo Six. Adjacent to the work area are two van trailers being used as tool storage as well as hazardous materials storage. The hazardous materials being stored on site includes engine oil, diesel fuel, hydraulic fluids and other greases related to the operation of the heavy equipment. The van trailer provides proper secondary containment as well as security for the materials.

On site discussions with the operator indicate that a permit revision is forthcoming, and the details of which are currently being investigated. The permit revisions discussed would most likely need to be addressed through the amendment process as the operator has indicated that significant changes to the mining and reclamation plans including a phased mining plan with contemporaneous reclamation, are intended. The pending revision will also have an effect on the required financial warranty and the reclamation cost estimate update was not performed at this time for that reason. The revision is expected to be received during the coming winter, so that those changes can be incorporated into the permit and work can begin according to the new plans in the spring of 2017.

The overall footprint of the site is in good condition and free from excessive trash and debris. The site appears to exhibit positive drainage and is free from significant erosion as well as noxious weeds. 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 phone at (970)-243-6368 or by email at lucas.west@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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</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>PB</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>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</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

CC: Russ Means, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist