




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: Nolte Pit #1	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2012-016	MINERAL: Borrow material for	COUNTY: Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell	INSP. DATE: November 10, 2016	INSP. TIME: 14:30
OPERATOR: Puckett Land Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Craig and Cindy Kohles	TYPE OF OPERATION: 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$36,250.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 22, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</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>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>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</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 inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The Nolte Pit #1 is a Special Operations 111c permitted site that includes a total of 22.34 permitted acres. This site is located approximately three quarters of a mile west of Parachute, Colorado in Garfield County and is accessed from Highway 6. Craig and Cindy Kohles represented Puckett Land Company and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

Mining was completed in the fall of 2012. The 2013 annual report the declared the site to be in final reclamation. To date several reclamation attempts have been made. In August of 2016 under TR-2, revisions were made to the reclamation plan.

The mine identification sign and affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance 3.1.12. A sign is posted at the natural gas pad entrance from Highway 6. The permit boundary is clearly delineated by wire fence and T-posts.

The natural gas pad is located within the mining permit boundary. As part of TR-2 the operator worked with Caerus Oil & Gas LLC to define the gas pad's foot print. Recently the pipeline that goes through the south boundary of the mining permit has been reworked which has resulted in extra traffic on the gas pad. The Division is unclear if the gas operations are staying within the agreed upon foot print. To date no fences or well-defined monuments have been constructed to delineate this boundary. A few small wooden stakes were observed but it is unclear if these are related to delineating the gas pad foot print. The Division highly recommends that this distinction be made to avoid discrepancies in the future. If areas have been utilized outside of the gas pad footprint this area will likely need to be ripped as heavy traffic will lead to compaction.

No fuel or structures related to mining remain in place.

According to Mr. Kohles some surface roughening and seeding took place after the last spring inspection. Reclamation efforts were limited to those areas flat enough to use a drag implement. The Division observed lines that appeared to be drag marks on the pit floor. Some grass did germinate however not at a high enough density to comply with the approved reclamation plan requirements.

Slopes remain unchanged since the last inspection. The pit slopes it look as if that little to no vegetation has increased over the summer. It appears that little erosion maintenance takes place between reclamation efforts. In several areas excessive amounts of erosion and riling was observed. Without adequate vegetation and surface roughening erosion will continue to be a problem. The operator is encouraged to monitor and properly maintain their stormwater BMPs and slopes to avoid potential future violations and/or problems.

It was indicated that no additional reclamation work has taken place this fall. It is the operator's responsibility to complete reclamation within 5 years of completing mining actives. Mr. Kohles indicated that later this fall additional work will take place however he was unclear as to what all that will include. The operator is strongly encouraged to utilize all methods identified under TR-2 and reclaimed the entire site. It's also recommended that in the early spring reevaluate early reclamation success and determine if additional measures will be needed to ensure growth over the 2017 summer.

Until the site is fully vegetated the operator should remain vigilant in treating weeds. Some noxious species were observed. If left untreated these species may outcompete desirable vegetation and hinder reclamation success.

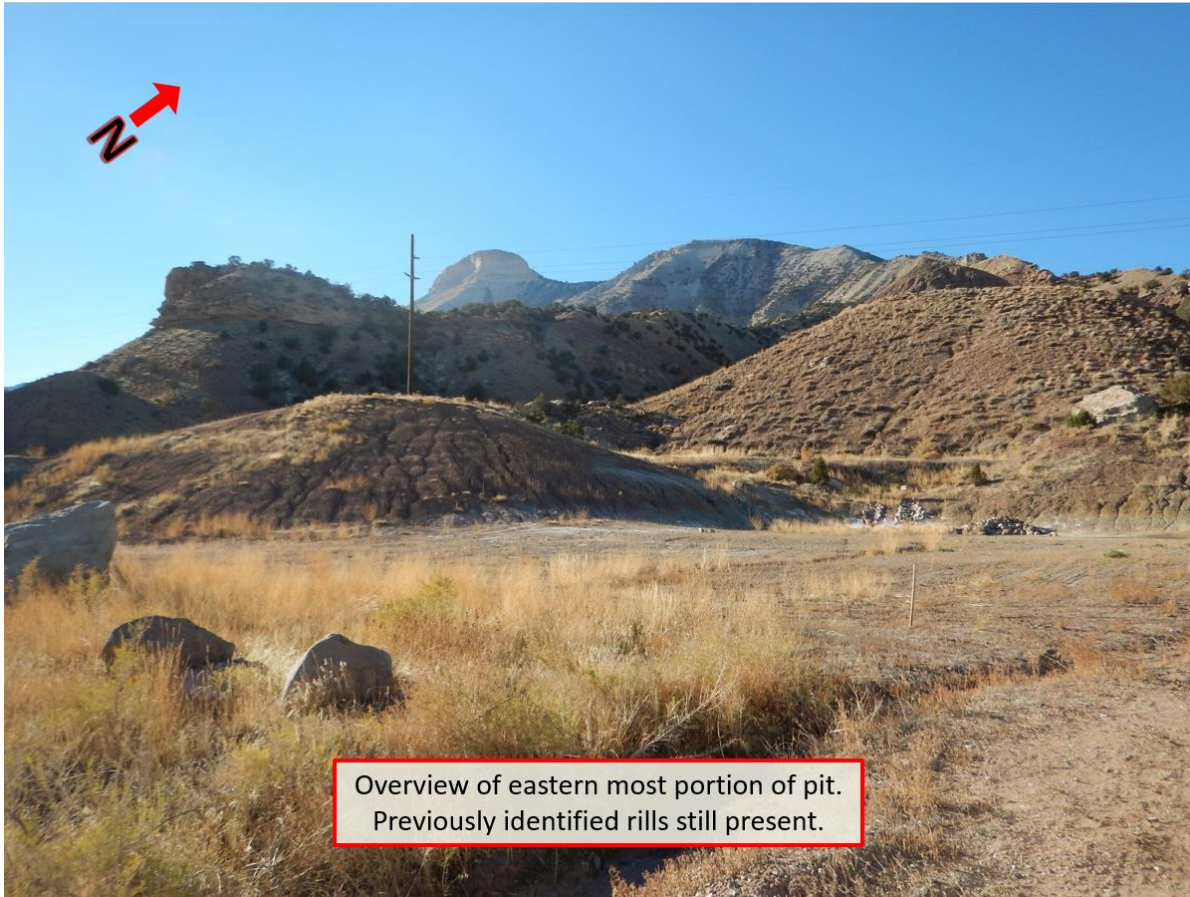
The operator is also reminded of the Divisions policy that reclamation needs a minimum of 2 growing seasons before it can be evaluated for release. This helps the Division ensure that vegetation is sustainable. In some cases vegetation may be deemed adequate sooner or in arid or challenging areas it may require more time. It is impractical for the operator to expect to seed in the spring and be granted a release that same fall. This site has proved challenging and successful reclamation will likely take several years to achieve.

Currently the Division holds a Financial Warranty in the amount of \$36,250 for this site. At this time the Division finds this amount adequate to fulfill the reclamation requirements of the approved reclamation plan.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

PHOTOGRAPHS













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Enclosure

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