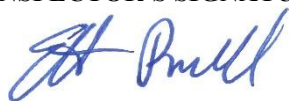


**COLORADO**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

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: Hartman Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1997-087	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Pueblo
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Elliott R. Russell	INSP. DATE: September 22, 2016	INSP. TIME: 09:00
OPERATOR: Arnolds Custom Seeding, LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: James Simpson	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Release Requested	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$139,285.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 21, 2016	

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected. 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>N</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>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>NA</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>N</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>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

OBSERVATIONS

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) conducted an Acreage Reduction and Surety Reduction inspection of the Hartman Pit (Permit File No. M-1997-087), a Construction Material Regular 112c Operation Reclamation Permit with 240 permitted acres and operated by Arnolds Custom Seeding, LLC. The mine is located approximately 3 miles south of Vineland, Colorado in Pueblo County. Elliott Russell, with the Division, inspected the site. James Simpson, representing the Operator, accompanied the inspection.

This inspection was carried out after the Division's received the request for an Acreage Reduction (AR-01) and a Surety Reduction (SR-01) on July 20, 2016. These requests were called complete on July 26, 2016 after the Operator submitted the delinquent 2015 Annual Report and Fee. AR-01 requested the release of 225.7 acres and proposed to keep 14.3 acres permitted. SR-01 requested to release all but \$30,550.00 of the financial warranty for the remaining reclamation work on the 14.3 acres.

At 0900 hours, the Division met Mr. Simpson at the mine site, located west of 36th Lane, approximately 3 miles south of Hwy 50 Business. At the time of the inspection the temperature was hot, the sky was clear, and the ground was dry. The mine site identification sign was observed at the entrance to the site and was in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1). The permit boundary was delineated by metal fence posts. The 14.3 acres was not delineated.

The Division observed a healthy landscape of blue grama, sideoats grama, switchgrass, and buffalo grasses on the majority of the reclaimed lands. Unfortunately, several areas of the disturbance (within the areas outside of the 14.3 acres to remain) were void of vegetation or were dominated by kochia. Mr. Simpson stated that they would reseed in the fall of 2016 to achieve better results. Additionally, the tamarisk that were treated with a foliar herbicide in the spring of 2016, were not entirely eradicated as several stems still had green/living foliage on them. In the spring/summer of 2017, the Division recommends the Operator monitor the tamarisk at the site to determine the effectiveness of the previous year's treatment and re-treat, as necessary.

The Division observed three graded areas of the disturbance that did not meet the approved Reclamation Plan. These three areas observed are located at the edges of three mined-out "gravelly fingers" and consist of approximately 2H:1V slopes starting at the pit floor up to undisturbed topography. The Division has attached a Google Earth Print out showing the location of these three locations. The approved Reclamation Plan states that the mining operation will not create backslopes as the operation consists solely of removing the tops of the gravel knolls, creating a level pit floor. The approved Reclamation Plan Maps also reflects this with post-mining contours showing that the margins of the operation would day-light to existing topography. It appears the mining operation did not fully mine out the knolls, leaving these slopes. Since the approved Reclamation Plan and Map are different than the current conditions, the Operator will need to either grade these areas flat OR submit a Technical Revision to the permit revising the Reclamation Plan and Reclamation Plan Map. Attached is the Division's Technical Revision cover sheet, which can also be found on the Division website.

The Division cannot approve the Acreage Reduction (AR-01) nor the Surety Reduction (SR-01) requests due to the above mentioned issues. The Division could approve a separate Surety Reduction to release the reclamation tasks already completed, such as the grading and topsoil replacement, because the financial warranty would only need to be held for the revegetation of the site.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at elliott.russell@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Mine identification sign posted at the entrance to the site; looking west.



Sample photo of a portion of the permit with successful reclamation; looking north.



Sample photo of a portion of the permit with successful reclamation; looking west.



Location of one area lacking vegetation, appears to be a graded-out stockpile; looking northeast.



Sample photo of an area dominated by kochia; looking northeast.



Sample photo of an area dominated by kochia; looking west.



Small area lacking vegetation, evidence that tamarisk are still alive; looking east.



Additional area where tamarisk may need to be retreated; looking west.



Western area with 2H:1V slope remaining; looking north.



Northern area with 2H:1V slope remaining; looking west.



Eastern area with 2H:1V slope remaining, area lacking adequate vegetation as well; looking southwest.

Inspection Contact Address

James Simpson
Arnolds Custom Seeding, LLC
4626 WCR 65
Keenesburg, CO 80643

Attachment: Google Earth Image M1997087


Enclosure: Technical Revision Cover Sheet


CC: Wally Erickson; DRMS

Hartman Pit (M-1997-087)

Image Date: 8/28/13
Created on 11/21/16 by ERR

Legend

 Approximate Permit Boundary

 Areas of 2H:1V Slopes

