November 28, 2016



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

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

#### Jason Burkey Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County 2273 River Road Grand Junction, CO 81502

### RE: North Bank Resources, Permit No. M-2006-018, Unresolved Problem(s) Noted in a Past Inspection Report

Dear Mr. Burkey:

According to records kept by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, some problem(s) noted in a past mine site inspection report have not been corrected. If the problem(s) have already been corrected, documentation of the corrective actions taken to correct the problem(s) must be submitted to our office.

Please see the enclosed inspection report for the above noted mine site, issued as a result of a past inspection of this site. Problems noted in this report that remain unresolved according to our records, have been highlighted.

To avoid potential future enforcement actions for non-compliance with State Statutes, Rules and Regulations, and/or conditions specified in your permit for this site, you must submit compliance documentation with the corrective actions by *Friday, December 30, 2016*.

If you require additional information, or have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. 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

Sincerely,

y Geldell

*Amy Yeldell* Environmental Protection Specialist Department of Natural Resources Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety Phone: (970) 254-8511 Fax: (970) 241-1516

Cc: Russ Means, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS





**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:	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
North Bank Resources	M-2006-018	Sand and gravel	Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE:	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Preoperation Inspection	Amy C. Yeldell	September 1, 2016	08:00
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Compar	Jason Burkey	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
County			

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Priority	Complete Bond	\$196,600.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA	DRMS	None
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:
Clear	Amy Geldell	September 14, 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 was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. 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 by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 11/18/16

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) in response to the technical revision (TR-4) request submitted on August 19, 2016. TR-4 proposes to change the upland seed mix. The North Bank Pit is a 112c sand and gravel operation that consists of 237.67 acres of which 93 acres will be mined. Jason Burkey represented the operator and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection. The site is located in Garfield County approximately three mile east of Rifle, Colorado and is accessed from US Highway 6.

The affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance with Rule 3.1.12. The pit boundary is delineated by a fence. The mine sign was not present at the time of the inspection. This is cited as a problem. Please provide the Division if photo documentation that the sign has been posted at the pit entrance by the corrective action date. It is acknowledged that a new sign was being made and it was in the process of being moving from the HWY6 entrance to the road between the North Bank Pit and the Glen Pit (M-2005-075) since that is the primary access road now.

The pit was active at the time of the inspection. Mining is currently occurring in Cell A (eastern portion). Approximately 4 acres have mined in this area and have exposed ground water. A dozer was observed hauling material. A portable processing plant was observed however it was not set up. Currently material from the North Bank Pit is being proceed at the plant on the Glen Pit (M-2005-075). Processed material is then stockpiled on the North Bank Pit prior to being transported via the conveyor to the Mamm Creek Sand and Gravel Pit (M-2000-113) for sales.

Piles of recycled cement were stockpiles. This cement is either mixed with mined product or sold by itself, none will remain on site for reclamation purposes. There were several large stockpiles of material. All stockpiles were neatly organized and stable.

Cell B is mostly reclaimed. The pond's water level is being drawn down slightly. The majority of the slopes have been regraded to a 3:1 slope or less. The operator has made excellent use of tracking to help roughen slopes and prevent riling. There are a few sections where slopes have settled or eroded and will need additional grading. Also approximately 100 linear feet of highwall in the western portion of Cell B required more grading. Topsoil has been replaced throughout cell B. Mr. Burkey was unsure if they were going to seed this fall or allow the ground to settle over the winter and seed in the spring.

Recharge of the pond in cell B was evident. In several areas a water line could be seen on the hillside where soils were saturated. In a few spots underground seeps have eroded the once graded slopes and are now discharging into the lake. Prior to completing final reclamation these areas will need to be fixed. The operator may armor eroded areas where water is discharging to prevent additional erosion and sedimentation. Or in areas where additional water is unlikely grading will be necessary to restore the proper 3:1 sloping.

A fuel tank was observed in a secondary containment. Topsoil is stockpiled in one large pile north of the active mine area. The topsoil piles appears to be stable however it was hard to tell due to the Kochia infestation.

Large amounts of Kochia were observed throughout the reclaimed site. The operator is encouraged to aggressively manage all non-desirable plants in additional to state listed noxious weeds in order to prevent future reclamation issues. Additionally Tamarisk and Russian Olive trees were observed. The Division acknowledges that this site is a sink not a source. However the operator shall demonstrate that they are actively managing weeds in all disturbed areas. A weed management plan was executed through TR-1 and should be implemented as such.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$196,600 for this site. A surety increase has not occurred since the permit issuance in 2006. In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately, reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan the Division will be updating the reclamation cost estimate. The Division will send notice under a separate cover if the current bond is found insufficient.

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



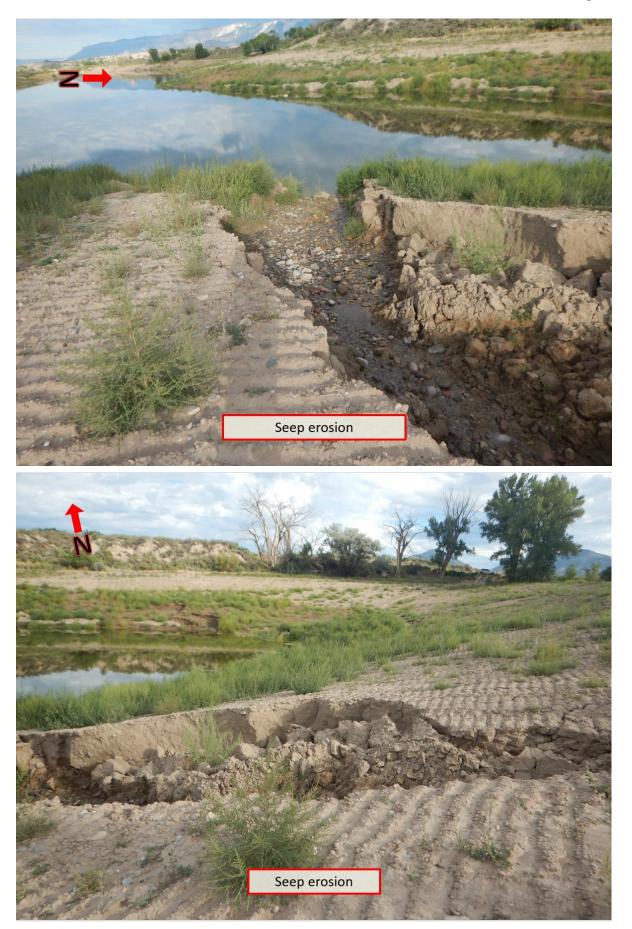












#### **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

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>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES Y	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION Y
(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 Y	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP Y
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS Y

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** 

Jason Burkey Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County 2273 River Road Grand Junction, CO 81502

Enclosure

EC: Russ Means, Senior EPS, GJFO DRMS