



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: Dill Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2009-077	MINERAL: Borrow material for construction, gravel and sand	COUNTY: Elbert
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy Eschberger	INSP. DATE: February 17, 2016	INSP. TIME: 14:00
OPERATOR: Tracy and Ed Grimes	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Ed Grimes	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$18,700.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: January 4, 2017	

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>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>Y</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</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 was a normal monitoring inspection of the Dill Pit (Permit No. M-2009-077) conducted by Amy Eschberger of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Mr. Ed Grimes represented the operator for the inspection. The site is located approximately 6 miles southwest of Limon, Colorado in Elbert County. Access to the site is from the northeast off of US-24. The affected land is owned by Tracy and Ed Grimes. The approved post-mining land use for the site is rangeland.

This is a 110c operation permitted for 9.9 acres (see enclosed Google Earth image of permit area) to mine sand and gravel for use as fill material and road base. The permit acreage is split into approximately 8.8 acres for the mining area, and approximately 1.1 acres for the haul road. The site is situated partially in an ephemeral creek bed which flows north/northeast to Big Sandy Creek when carrying water. The approved mining plan includes mining the site from north to south, at a maximum depth of 25 feet. The western edge of the excavation is to be kept a minimum of 39 feet from the edge of road base of the adjacent Co Rd 189. To protect the stability of the county road, the western mined wall is to be maintained at a 4H:1V or flatter slope gradient. Mined material will be processed on site using a portable washing/screening plant and potentially a portable hot mix asphalt plant. The processing and stockpiling area will be located at the northern end of the permit area. Salvaged topsoil and overburden will be stored separately along the western edge of the permit area.

The approved reclamation plan includes backfilling the pit with any remaining overburden, grading all mined slopes to 4H:1V or flatter, replacing a depth of 6-12 inches of topsoil across disturbed land, and revegetating the site with a native grass seed mixture recommended by the local Natural Resources Conservation Service. The northern portion of the pit floor is to be sloped approximately 0.5% northward to allow for positive drainage into the existing creek. The 20 foot wide access road was constructed from an existing gated access off of US-24 for use by the operation, and is included in the permit area. However, the access road will remain after reclamation for use by the landowner/operator for ranching purposes. Therefore, the Division does not hold costs for reclaiming the access road in the financial warranty.

At the time of the inspection, it was partly cloudy and windy with some snow cover remaining. A proper permit sign was posted at the main site entrance off of US-24 (**Photo 1**). The permit boundary was delineated with posts. The active pit was located in the northern half of the permit area (see enclosed Google Earth image of disturbed area). Mined walls were present along the northern, western, and southern edges of the permit area, and have been graded to mostly 4H:1V or flatter (**Photos 2-5**). The edge of excavation ranges from approximately 65 to 75 feet from the edge of Co Rd 189, which is compliant with the permit condition of 39 feet. A small fresh cut, approximately 20 feet in length, was present near the southern edge of the pit, daylighting to the north (**see Photo 5**). Portions of sand stockpiles remained on the pit floor (**Photo 6**). Salvaged topsoil was bermed along the western edge of the pit above the mined wall, and appeared to be stable with vegetative cover (**Photo 7**). Two small test ditches were present south of the active pit.

The site was not active during the inspection, and no processing equipment was present on site. However, a few small loaders were stored on the pit floor. According to the operator, mining activities occur at the site for more than 180 days per year. The operator should be advised that if operations were to occur for less than 180 days per year, a Technical Revision would need to be submitted to request intermittent status. If mining activities were to cease for 180 days or more, the operator must either file a Notice of Temporary Cessation or reclaim the site. The Division estimates the operation has disturbed approximately 4.2 acres, including the active pit area and the two small test ditches. The Division is not including the access road in the disturbed area, as it will not be reclaimed. The Division has determined the currently held bond amount of \$18,700 is sufficient to reclaim the disturbed land. The operation appears to be following the approved mining plan. No problems were observed during the inspection.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. View of permit sign posted at main site entrance off of US-24, access road to pit at right.



Photo 2. View looking southwest from northern edge of active pit, showing western mined wall graded to approximately 4H:1V slope. Note topsoil bermed along top of mined wall.



Photo 3. View looking southeast from western edge of active pit, showing southern mined wall graded to approximately 4H:1V slope.



Photo 4. View looking northwest from southern edge of active pit, showing southwestern mined wall graded to approximately 4H:1V slope. Note topsoil bermed along top of mined wall.



Photo 5. View looking southeast from western edge of active pit, showing western and southern mined walls graded to approximately 4H:1V slope. Note small fresh cut at left.



Photo 6. View looking east from western edge of active pit, showing sand stockpiled on pit floor.



Photo 7. View looking west from eastern edge of active pit, showing topsoil bermed along top of western mined wall (indicated with arrows), stable with vegetative cover.

Inspection Contact Address

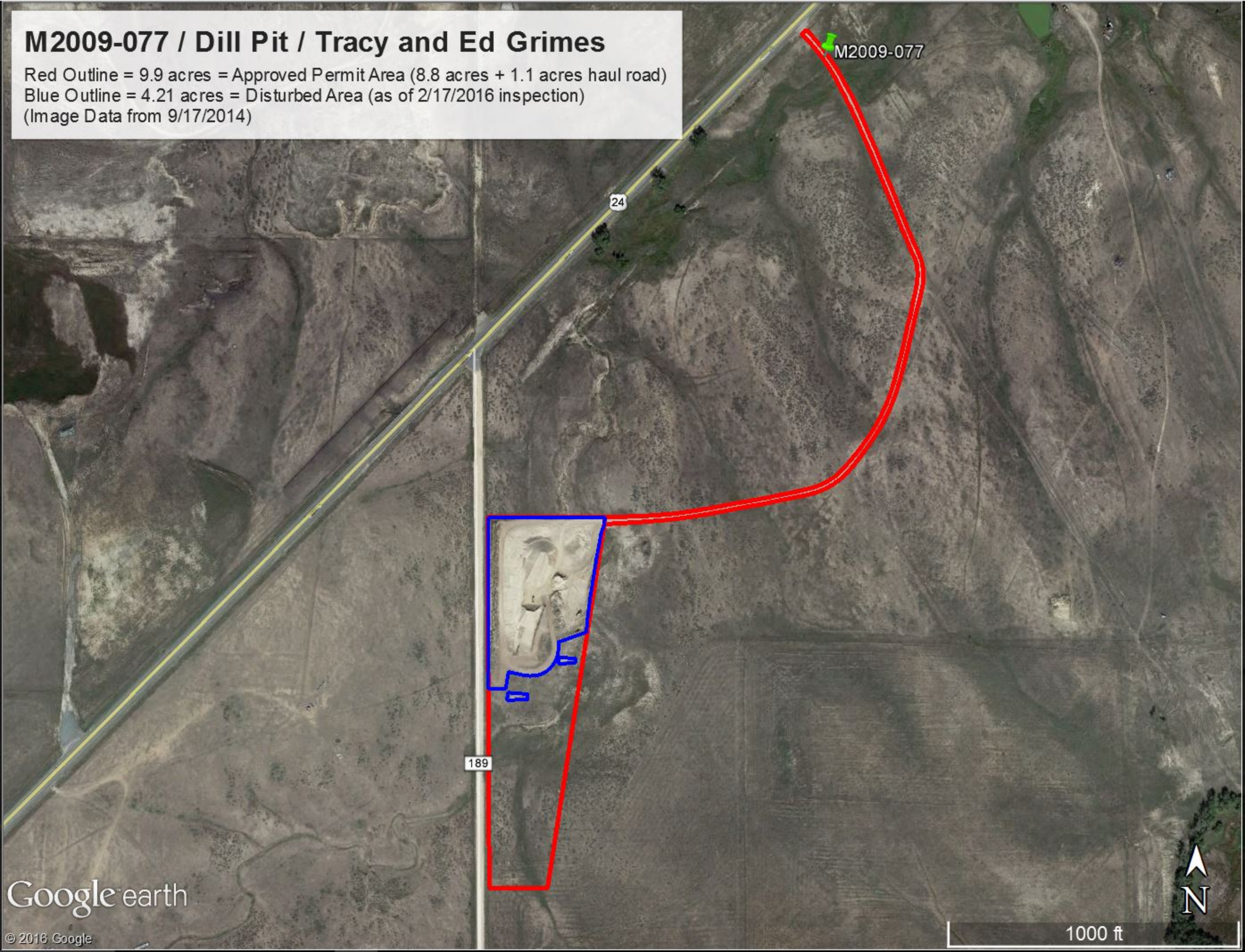
Tracy and Ed Grimes
47570 Hwy. 24
Limon, CO 80828

Enclosures: Google Earth image of permit area
Google Earth image of disturbed area

CC: Wally Erickson, DRMS

M2009-077 / Dill Pit / Tracy and Ed Grimes

Red Outline = 9.9 acres = Approved Permit Area (8.8 acres + 1.1 acres haul road)
Blue Outline = 4.21 acres = Disturbed Area (as of 2/17/2016 inspection)
(Image Data from 9/17/2014)



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