


**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Pioneer Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-252	<b>MINERAL:</b> Clay (general)	<b>COUNTY:</b> Douglas
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Peter S. Hays	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> December 29, 2016	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> General Shale Brick, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Jason McGraw	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Partial Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$91,243.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> January 6, 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>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</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>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>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</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

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Pioneer Mine was inspected by Peter Hays with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) as part of the Division's monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected by the Division on August 2, 2012. Mr. Jason McGraw with General Shale Brick, Inc. was present during the inspection.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$91,243.00, which appears adequate based on this inspection. The mine sign and boundary markers were observed as required by Rule 3.1.12. All mining disturbance was contained within the permit boundary. The site is permitted for 34.0 acres in accordance with technical revision no. 2 (TR-02) approved by the Division on October 11, 2000. The Operator's annual report indicates the site is permitted for 31.6 acres with a 27.8 acre disturbance area.

The site was active during the inspection. Stockpiled material was being removed by truck and loader from the southeast clay stockpile. The site is "campaign" mined by General Shale. Clay is mined in a period of weeks and stockpiled on site for later removal and transport to the processing facility in Lakewood for the production of bricks. The site was last mined in 2008 according to the Operator. The clay deposits are oriented in horizontal layers. Mining is progressing from the west to east in the northern portion of the site. The northwestern portion of the mine area is being backfilled with waste brick as approved by technical revision no. 4 (TR-04). The waste brick is end-dumped by trucks in the stockpile area west of the backfill location.

No final reclamation activities have started at the site. A large topsoil stockpile is located along the west side of the site between the access road and the mine area. A stormwater detention pond is located between the topsoil stockpile and the mine pad.

Diffuse knapweed and Common Mullein, List A and C noxious weeds, were observed at the site. A noxious weed control plan is approved for the site. The Operator stated the noxious weeds would be scheduled to be sprayed in the spring.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Mr. Jason McGraw  
General Shale Brick, Inc.  
1845 W. Dartmouth Ave.  
Denver, CO 80110

Enclosure: Inspection Map

Cc: Wally Erickson, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Pioneer Mine sign



View of stockpile area from south end of pad looking north





View of stockpile area from north end of pad looking south



View of pit from north end of pad looking north





View of pit from the northwest corner of the site looking east



View of pit from the northeast corner of the site looking west





View of pit from the northeast corner of the site looking southeast



View of stormwater pond located between stockpile pad and topsoil berm



# Pioneer Mine

M-1977-252

December 29, 2016 Inspection Map

Hess Rd

S Parker Rd

Pine Bluffs Way

M-1977-252 Pioneer Mine

## Legend

-  Approx. Permit Boundary
-  Brick Stockpile Area
-  M-1977-252 Pioneer Mine
-  Pad / Stockpile Area
-  Topsoil Stockpile

Google earth

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700 ft

N