


**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> Hogback Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1980-245	<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> 12:30
<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> \$236,538.00
<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

**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:** Availability Of Records

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10(6) of the Rule.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** Implement the approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the Operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10(6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 3/3/17

### **OBSERVATIONS**

The Hogback 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 \$236,538.00, 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 was inactive during the inspection. 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 is permitted for 65.90 acres with a maximum allowed disturbance of 56.56 acres. The mine site is divided into two mining areas (north and south). A stockpile area is located east of the mining areas and contained one small stockpile of clay.

The site was last mined in 2005. The site is not expected to be mined any time soon, since similar clay deposits are available at the leased Lariat Pit site. The approved post mining land use is wildlife habitat. No reclamation activities have started at the site. The topsoil stockpile located in the southeast portion of the site was well vegetated and stable. No erosion was noted during the inspection. The stormwater pond in the northeast portion of the site contained water. The stormwater was dispersed by evaporation with a sprinkler system located south of the pond.

Diffuse knapweed, a List A noxious weed, was observed at the site. A noxious weed control plan has not been approved for the site. As cited as a problem, the Operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Rule 3.1.10(6). The plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

#### **Inspection Contact Address**

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

Cc: Wally Erickson, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Hogback Mine sign



View of lower clay deposits in north mining area looking south





View of upper clay deposits in north mining area looking north



View of stockpile area from the north mining area looking south



View of upper clay deposits in north mining area looking south

### **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS----- <b>PB</b>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>Y</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