




**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> Nahcolite Project	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1983-194	<b>MINERAL:</b> Carbonates	<b>COUNTY:</b> Rio Blanco
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Travis H. Marshall	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 26, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Natural Soda LLC	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Kirk Daehling	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112d-3 - Designated Mining Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$4,158,340.68	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> U.S.BLM	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> May 15, 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>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</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>Y</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>Y</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 inspection was conducted by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) as part of the routine inspection program. The Natural Soda LLC Nahcolite Project is a 112d3 mine site that consists of 8,223 acres. Kirk Daehling of Natural Soda and Jerry Daub of Daub and Associates were both present during the inspection. Stephanie Mitchell and Travis Marshall with the Division were both present during the inspection.

The plant was inspected and all components of the process were observed. All equipment for the second stream is installed and appeared to be functioning properly. The plant inspection started on the ground floor and then an elevator was taken to the top of the plant and then the group worked its way down each level to observe the process step by step. The plant was observed to be in very well kept condition. No unnecessary debris or material spills were observed.

The inspection then moved to the well field where various production pads were observed. Most of the pads observed were in a clean and orderly condition. No major erosional features were observed. No noxious weed infestations were observed.

The operator informed the inspectors that there was a release of material on April 25, 2017 due to a rubber gasket failure on the 4-3H(V) Pad. The spill was cleaned up on April 26, 2017 by the removal of three loader buckets of material contaminated by the spill. The operator notified the Division on May 11, 2017 that all regrading and repair to the spill area was completed on May 4, 2017. The Division considers this matter resolved and no further action is required by the operator.

No off-site damage was observed during the inspection.

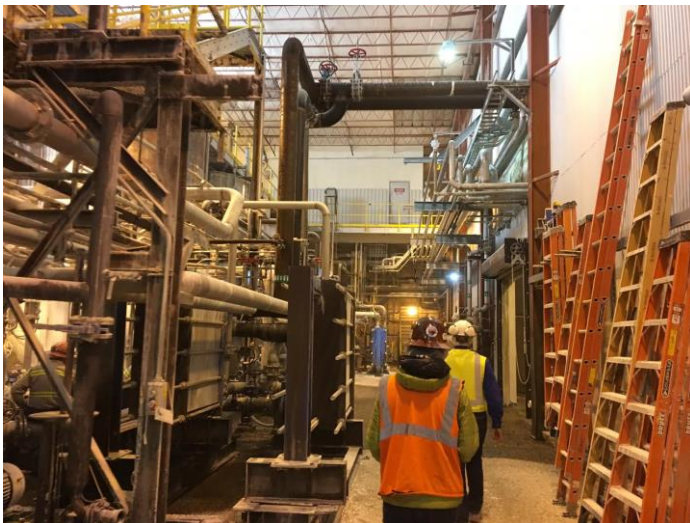
No problems or possible violations were observed during the inspection.

Photos of the conditions observed during the inspection are located at the end of this inspection report.

If you need more information regarding this inspection report please contact Travis Marshall in the DRMS Grand Junction Field Office at (970) 241-2042.



**PHOTOGRAPHS**







**Inspection Contact Address**

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Rifle, CO 81650

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