



# 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> Red Jasper Granite	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1982-200	<b>MINERAL:</b> Granite	<b>COUNTY:</b> Teller
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Elliott R. Russell	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 19, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Colorado Quarries Inc	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> John Ready	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$5,000.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> BLM, DWR	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> U.S.BLM
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> May 12, 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.**

### GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected

ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS	<u>NA</u>	FISH AND WILDLIFE	<u>Y</u>	ROADS	<u>N</u>
AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS	<u>Y</u>	<b>HYDROLOGIC BALANCE</b>	<b><u>PB</u></b>	PERMIT STIPULATIONS	<u>NA</u>
BACKFILL AND GRADING	<u>NA</u>	<b>GEN COMP WITH MINE PLAN</b>	<b><u>PB</u></b>	SEDIMENT CONTROL	<u>Y</u>
COMPLETE INSPECTION	<u>Y</u>	OFF-SITE DAMAGE	<u>N</u>	<b>SIGNS AND MARKERS</b>	<b><u>PB</u></b>
EXCESS SPOIL/DEV. WASTE	<u>Y</u>	PROCESSING WASTE	<u>NA</u>	STORM WATER MGT PLAN	<u>NA</u>
EXPLOSIVES	<u>N</u>	RECLAMATION SUCCESS	<u>N</u>	SUPPORT FACILITIES	<u>NA</u>
<b>FINANCIAL WARRANTY</b>	<b><u>PB</u></b>	REVEGETATION	<u>Y</u>	TOPSOIL	<u>Y</u>

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / **PB = Problem cited** / PV = Possible violation cited

### **PROBLEMS/POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS**

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Financial Warranty

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #1:** The current financial warranty is inadequate to cover the current cost of reclamation at the site.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** In accordance with C.R.S. 34-32.5-117(4)(c)(II), the operator is required to submit the additional amount within 60 days.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** July 11, 2017

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Hydrologic Balance

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #2:** The site is not in compliance with applicable Colorado water laws pursuant to Rule 3.1.6(1)(a). Stormwater is intercepted at the site and not being released to the stream system within 72 hours.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall demonstrate the site is in compliance with the Division of Water Resources (DWR) by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** July 11, 2017

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** General Compliance With Mine Plan

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #3:** The current mine plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-110(1)(a)(VII). The operator must provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the operator intends to conduct the operation.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall submit an amendment to update and clarify the current approved mine plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** July 11, 2017

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs and Markers

**COMPLIANCE PROBLEM #4:** The mine identification sign needs to be refreshed.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator must post a sign at the entrance to the mine site which shall be clearly visible from the access road and specify the following:

- the name of the operator
- the permit number
- indicate that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board

The operator shall submit photo documentation of a posted mine identification sign by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** June 12, 2017

### **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted following the Division's process regarding a Temporary Cessation Notice. The Operator was represented during the inspection by John Ready. This was a joint inspection with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). William Jenkins represented the BLM.

The Red Jasper Granite is a 110c Operation and is approved to affect four acres of land. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support rangeland and wildlife habitat post-mining land uses. The site is located approximately eight miles west-northwest of Cripple Creek, Colorado.

The Division met John Ready and William Jenkins at the mine site entrance on the north side of County Road 102, approximately 3 miles west of County Road 11. The site was not active at the time of the inspection and no equipment was on-site. Mr. Ready stated the site was active in the fall of 2016. Mr. Jenkins confirmed this by stating the BLM had issued a contract with Colorado Quarries Inc for 25 tons of material on August 29, 2016.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through November 2016. The previous inspection was on March 9, 2016. There are no open infractions. A notice Temporary Cessation (TC-02) was filed on April 11, 2016, stating the reason for ceasing mining activities at the site was because sales for the material have not increased due to local sources.

Complete Inspection: The entire permit area was inspected.

Excess Spoil and Development Waste: Various stockpiles of what appeared to be discarded granite where located around the site (see **Photos 1-3**). Although it is not discussed in the permit documents, this material, if not used as product, would likely be used as backfill against final highwall configurations.

Financial Warranty: The \$5,000.00 bond held by the Division, set during the permitting process in 1982, is inadequate to cover the associated reclamation costs of the current mine disturbance. The Division has cited this as Compliance Problem #1 on page two of this report. The Division has calculated a new financial warranty of \$14,886.00 and has issued the enclosed Surety Increase (SI-01).

Fish and Wildlife: The Division didn't observe any issues or concerns regarding fish and wildlife.

Hydrologic Balance: Standing water was observed in the sediment pond, approximately 2,100 sq. ft. in size, located on the south quarry's lower pad level (see **Photo 4 and 5**). In addition, evidence of recent standing water was observed on the upper pad level of the south quarry (see **Photo 6**). After a review of google earth imagery and past inspection report photographs, the Division has determined the standing water in these two locations is a persistent issue which must be resolved before proceeding with TC-02. The Division has cited this as Compliance Problem #2 on page two of this report.

General Compliance with Mine Plan: As discussed above, the site consists of two separate mining areas referenced within this report as the north quarry and south quarry. However, the permit file describes only a single rock outcrop to be mined. Based on limited permit maps and possibly incorrect permit markers locations, the permitted operation was unclear and will need to be revised. This has been cited as Compliance Problem #3 on page two of this report. The near vertical high walls of both the north and south quarries were estimated to vary between 15 and 20 feet in height and contained fractures and loose rock (see **Photos 7 and 8**).

Revegetation: The north quarry contained well established vegetation on the quarry pad (see **Photo 9**), due to a long period of inactivity, while very little revegetation was observed at the more recently active south quarry. No noxious weeds were observed at the site.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was posted along the access road just south of the south quarry (see **Photo 10**). The sign is worn and faded and will need to be replaced in accordance with Rule 3.1.12(1). This has been cited as Compliance Problem #4 on page two of this report. To achieve the intent of the mine identification sign, the Division recommends the Operator post an additional mine identification sign along County Road 102 where the private access road starts.

Topsoil: No topsoil stockpiles were observed during the inspection. It appears the Operator has not salvaged topsoil, however the permit discusses that topsoil would only be salvaged from the rock outcrop area whenever the topsoil exceeds more than four inches in depth; based on observations made during the inspection of undisturbed areas near the mine site, there was likely not more than four inches of topsoil at the site prior to operations.

This concludes the Division's Inspection Report; a subset of photographs taken during the time of the inspection are included below. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at **303-866-3567 x8132**, or by email at [elliott.russell@state.co.us](mailto:elliott.russell@state.co.us).

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1.** Stockpiled material located southeast of the south quarry; looking south.





**Photo 2.** Stockpiled material located west of the north quarry; looking west.



**Photo 3.** Stockpiled material located at the north quarry; looking northeast.





**Photo 4.** Standing water located on the lower pad of the south quarry; looking southeast.



**Photo 5.** Standing water located on the lower pad of the south quarry; looking north.





**Photo 6.** Evidence of recent standing water located on the upper pad of the south quarry; looking northwest.



**Photo 7.** Highwall at the north quarry; looking east.





**Photo 8.** Highwall (benched on right portion) at the north quarry; looking east.



**Photo 9.** Portions of the vegetated north quarry pad; looking north.





**Photo 10.** Permit identification sign located along the access road south of the south quarry; looking northeast.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Bill Tezak  
Colorado Quarries Inc  
270 S 15th St  
Canon City, CO 81212

Enclosure: Surety Increase Notice (SI-01) and Reclamation Cost Estimate M-1980-200

CC: Wally Erickson with DRMS  
William Jenkins with BLM (wjenkins@blm.gov)  
Melissa Peterson with DWR (melissa.a.peterson@state.co.us)