




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: Austin Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1986-047	MINERAL: Sand, gravel, clay	COUNTY: Phillips
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Elliott R. Russell	INSP. DATE: May 17, 2017	INSP. TIME: 11:10
OPERATOR: Phillips County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Randy Schafer	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: NA
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 24, 2017

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected. 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.

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected

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

None observed during the inspection.

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division's routine monitoring program for permitted operations. The Operator was represented during the inspection by Randy Schafer.

The Austin Pit is a 110c Operation and is approved to affect 9.9 acres of land. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support pastureland post-mining land use. The site is located 12.5 miles northwest of Holyoke, Colorado.

The Division met Randy Schafer at the mine site entrance on the south side of County Road 44, approximately ½ mile east of County Road 25. The site was not active at the time of the inspection and no equipment was on the site. The 2017 Annual Report indicates the last date of excavation, processing, or hauling activity to occur at the mine site was in November 2015. Mr. Schafer stated that the County is going to initiate final reclamation activities this winter; this schedule appears to be on track for compliance with Rule 3.1.3, which states all reclamation shall be carried to completion within 5 years from the date the operator has ceased mining.

Availability Of Records: The Annual Report and Fee have been complied with through May 2017. The previous inspection was on April 28, 2014. There are no open infractions.

Backfilling and Grading: The northern and western slopes appeared to be appropriately graded.

Complete Inspection: The entire permit area was inspected. No problems were observed during the inspection.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the mining area. No exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan.

Revegetation: The northern and western slopes were revegetated. No noxious weeds were observed.

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 properly posted and permit boundary was marked by fence lines.

Topsoil: A topsoil stockpile is located along the eastern permit boundary. This stockpile was vegetated and appeared stable.

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.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Permit identification sign posted at the site entrance; looking south.



Photo 2. Northwest boundary corner and site overview; looking southeast.



Photo 3. Mining highwall along eastern side of the site; looking southeast.



Photo 4. Reclaimed northern slope of the site; looking west.



Photo 5. Topsoil stockpile located between the highwall and eastern boundary; looking south.

Inspection Contact Address

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CC: Wally Erickson with DRMS