


**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> Blue Valley Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2015-008	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Grand
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety-Related Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Peter S. Hays	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> September 28, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Kirkland Construction, L.L.L.P.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> David King	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 111 - Construction by Government Agency	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Surety Related	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$75,000.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> October 2, 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:** Roads

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: Failure to follow the approved reclamation plan, or current reclamation plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (1). The Operator must follow the approved reclamation plan or provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the Operator intends to conduct reclamation.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The Operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the currently approved reclamation plan to reflect the existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 12/1/17

**OBSERVATIONS**

The Blue Valley Pit was inspected by Peter Hays with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) to evaluate the surety reduction request (SR-01) submitted by the Operator. Mr. David King with Kirkland Construction, L.L.L.P. was present during the inspection. The site was previously inspected by the Division on June 16, 2016.

The surety reduction request (SR-01) was received by the Division on August 16, 2017. The request was deemed complete on September 6, 2017. The current decision due date is October 6, 2017. No comments or objections for the surety reduction request have been received by the Division to date. The surety reduction requests a reduction of \$56,922, from the currently held \$75,000 financial warranty to a revised financial warranty of \$18,078. The surety reduction request is appropriate based on the reclamation activities completed at the site and the observations from this inspection. The Division will approve the surety reduction request for the site. The surety reduction approval letter will be send under separate cover.

The 111 permit site is permitted for 30 acres. The last mining excavation occurred in November 2016 according to the 2017 Annual Report. The site is in final reclamation. The approved post mining land use is rangeland. The approved Reclamation Plan states slopes will be reclaimed to 3H:1V or flatter with 1'-3' of overburden and 6" of topsoil replaced during final reclamation. The Operator stated a final topography survey was completed for the site during the inspection. All observed slopes appeared to be 3H:1V. The site was seeded with the approved reclamation seed mixture in June 2017 according to the Operator. The site vegetation consisted of juvenile prairie junegrass and bottlebrush squirrel tail grass. The Division estimates 50 percent of the site contained vegetation, with areas of establishing vegetation and areas of bare ground. The Division recommends allowing the existing vegetation to go to seed and the site vegetation is evaluated by the Operator in the spring of 2018 to determine if interseeding is required to achieve adequate vegetative cover for final release.

As cited as a problem requiring corrective action by the Operator on the first page of this report, an access road has been constructed through the site from the northeast corner to the southwest corner of the site. The road was constructed by the Operator to allow the landowner access to water pumps located adjacent to the Blue River. The Division will require the Operator to update the approved Reclamation Plan and Map to explain and indicate the access road by submitting a technical revision, pursuant to Rule 1.1.9, with the \$216 fee and a letter from the landowner stating they are aware the road will remain following the final reclamation of the site.

The site boundaries were delineated by fence on all sides, pursuant to Rule 3.1.12. An entrance sign was not observed as required by Rule 3.1.12, however this will not be cited as a problem by the Division due to the reclamation status of the site.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Mr. David King  
Kirkland Construction, L.L.L.P.  
P.O. Box 580  
Rye, CO 81069

Ec: Wally Erickson, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



View of former access road area from Hwy 9 looking west



View from the northeast corner of the site looking west





View from the northeast corner of the site looking southwest



View from the northeast corner of the site looking south





View from the east side of the site looking west



View from the east side of the site looking southwest





View from northwest corner of the site looking south



View from northwest corner of the site looking east

### GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

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

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>PB</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>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>N</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>N</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