




**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> Mica White	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1992-058	<b>MINERAL:</b> Mica and silica (quartz)	<b>COUNTY:</b> Fremont
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy A. Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 27, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 9:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Colorado Quarries Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Greg Cleeves	<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> \$184,720.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> BLM	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> BLM	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> November 20, 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>N</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>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</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 as part of the regular monitoring program. The Permittee (Colorado Quarries) was represented by Mr. Greg Cleeves during the inspection. Mr. William Jenkins was present representing the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Mica White is accessed from Fremont Co Rd 45 off US 50, approximately six miles southeast of Howard. This is a recently converted 112c mica and silica (quartz) mine. It was operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through August 2017. The previous inspection was on May 8, 2012. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions. The permitted area is 38.1 ac.

Backfilling and Grading: The pit highwalls are to be mined/excavated at an overall 2H:1V slope including 8-foot bench widths. The 20-foot high stockpile site retention berm will not remain after reclamation as this material will be utilized as capping material for reclamation.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden is encountered as the product is generally very near the surface.

Financial Warranty: The \$184,720 bond held by the Division is adequate for the observed mine disturbance.

Fish and Wildlife: No impacts to fish or wildlife were observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 5 acres at the mine site and 3.5 acres at the staging area. Additionally, approximately 2000 ft of new roads can be seen to have been pioneered in the pit area with a typical width of 12 feet, resulting in another 0.5 acres of disturbance for a total of approximately 9 acres of affected area. Highwalls were benched and estimated to vary between 75 and 100 feet in total height (see **Photo 1**) and relatively stable. The maximum allowed affected area is 24.5 acres: 20 acres at the mine site and 4.5 acres at the stockpile site.

Off-site Damage: The operation was within the permit boundary based on boundary markers and Google Earth review.

Processing Waste: A stockpile of fines (see **Photo 2**) was observed at the mine site (northwest end).

Roads: The haul road between the mine site and the stockpile site is not considered affected area. Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite.

Revegetation: Mr. Cleeves indicated no revegetation had been initiated at the time of the inspection. No noxious weeds were observed.

Sediment Control: The older fines stockpile showed signs of erosion (see **Photo 3**). However, eroded sediments from this stockpile appeared to be confined to the pit area. Five sediment traps (see **Photo 4**) were observed along the haul road between the mine site and the stockpile site. Mr. Cleeves pointed out the sediment pond in the stockpile site (see **Photo 5**). No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: A conveyor, crusher, loader, and haul truck were observed on site.

Signs and Markers: A permit sign was posted at the mine site (see **Photo 6**), but not at the stockpile site. Subsequent to the inspection, the permittee provided photographic documentation of a permit sign at the stockpile site. Alternatively, the Division would accept a single permit sign posted at the gate off County Road 45, as this is the site entrance. Boundary markers (survey lathe) were observed to delineate the new permit boundary at the stockpile site (see **Photo 7**). This inspector recommended more permanent markers be installed as survey lathe do not typically last very long in the field.

Permit Stipulations: There are no open permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: Mr. Cleeves indicated the site stormwater management plan is kept in the office. No oil or fuel spills observed. However, three petroleum product storage barrels were observed at the mine site (see **Photo 8**) without secondary containment. The lack of secondary containment was cited as a problem during the inspection. Mr. Cleeves stated he would promptly correct the problem. Subsequent to the inspection, the Division received photographic documentation from the Permittee demonstrating secondary containment had been provided for these petroleum product barrels (see **Photo 9**). Stormwater is captured in five sediment traps (see **Photo 10**) along the haul road.

Topsoil: Topsoil is virtually non-existent at the mine site.

Please contact Tim Cazier at (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at [tim.cazier@state.co.us](mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. Benched highwalls estimated to vary from 75 to 100 feet in height (looking SE).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Fines stockpile observed in northwest end of pit area (looking NW).



Photo 3. Older fines stockpile showing signs of erosion (central pit area).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Typical sediment trap (along haul road).



Photo 5. Staging area sediment pond (looking south).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Permit sign (posted at the pit area entrance).



Photo 7. Survey lathe boundary marker observed delineating new staging area permit boundary.



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 8. Petroleum product storage barrels observed at pit area (looking west).



Photo 9. Secondary containment photo provided for petroleum product barrels (from Permittee).

**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 10. Another sediment trap (along haul road).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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