

**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.

MINE NAME:		MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
Stevens Clay Lease		M-1996-064	Clay (general)	Douglas
INSPECTION TYPE:		INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring		Peter S. Hays	November 9, 2017	10:00
OPERATOR:		<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
The Denver Brick Company		Rob Tibbetts, Steve Helzer	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Normal I&E Program		Partial Bond	\$148,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:	
NA		None	None	
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE:	
Clear	Wovember 28, 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 Y	(RD) ROADS <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE Y	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>N</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 Y	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <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

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Stevens Clay Lease site was inspected by Peter Hays with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) as part of the Division's monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected on June 11, 2014. Mr. Rob Tibbetts and Mr. Steve Helzer with The Denver Brick Company were present during the inspection.

The site is an 112c Construction Materials permit for 40.20 total acres with 20.80 acres of disturbance. The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$148,000.00, which appears adequate to reclaim the current site disturbance. A mine sign and boundary markers were observed as required by Rule 3.1.12. The mine sign was posted at the entrance to the mine site, instead of on the access gate off of Crowfoot Valley Road. A mine sign should be added or the current sign should be moved to the start of the access road off of Crowfoot Valley Road by the Operator.

The site was inactive during the inspection. The access road to the site was damage during a flood event at the Lemon Gulch crossing in 2015. The Operator plans to repair the crossing within the next year before the next mining activity at the site. The site was last mined in 2016 by utilizing an existing ranch road with the permission of the landowner.

The Operator stated they would like to import grog (waste brick) into the site to use as backfill material. Prior to importing the grog, the Operator will be required to submit a technical revision, pursuant to Rule 1.9, with the \$216 fee and provide the inert fill notice requirements of Rule 3.1.5(9). The notice must include a narrative describing the approximate location of the proposed activity, the approximate volume of the inert material to be backfilled, a signed affidavit certifying the material is clean and inert (as defined by Rule 1.1(2)), the approximate dates the proposed activity will commence and end, an explanation of how the backfilled site will result in a post-mining configuration compatible with the approved post-mining land use and a general engineering plan stating how the material will be placed and stabilized in a manner to avoid unacceptable settling and voids.

Noxious weeds including diffuse knapweed and Canada thistle, list Class B noxious weeds, were observed at the site. The Operator was reminded of the need to implement the approved weed control plan at the site to prevent the spread of the noxious weeds onto the adjacent lands and allow for the successful revegetation of the site.

The mining activity is progressing from the east to west. The required 50 foot offset from the east boundary was confirmed during the inspection. The stormwater detention pond and outlet were observed in the southeast corner of the site. The detention pond was dry at the time of the inspection. The southeast corner of the pit contained stormwater during the inspection. The Operator stated the stormwater is pumped to the detention pond during mining operations. The eastern boundary highwall was partially backfilled at a 3H:1V slope. The Division estimated 325 feet of highwall from the southeast corner of the pit remain to be backfilled by the Operator. The highwall height was estimated at 10 feet. The approved Mine Plan states the maximum pit depth at 45 feet. The Operator stated the next mining activity will occur at an 80 foot offset from the eastern boundary. A stockpile area containing two small stockpiles was located in the southwest corner of the site. The pit floor contained numerous erosion rills and small gullies. The erosion features were contained within the permitted area and all of the features drained into the pit.

The approved post-mining land use for the site is rangeland. The northeast corner of the site has been regraded and revegated by the Operator. The reclaimed area was stable and vegetation was establishing well. A topsoil stockpile was located in the northwest corner of the site. Overburden stockpiles were located southwest and northwest of the detention pond and north of the active pit area. All stockpiles were well vegetated and appeared stable.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Inspection Contact Address Mr. Rob Tibbetts The Denver Brick Company 401 Prairie Hawk Dr. Castle Rock, CO 80109

Ec: Wally Erickson, DRMS

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Stevens Clay Lease mine sign at entrance to the pit



View of flood damaged access road crossing at Lemon Gulch looking south



View of stormwater detention pond located in the SE corner of the site looking west



View of the eastern boundary highwall from the SE corner of the site looking north



View of the eastern pit from the SE corner of the site looking NW



View of the eastern pit from the overburden stockpile looking south



View of the eastern pit from the SW corner of the pit looking NE