




**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> Bijou Clay Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1997-007	<b>MINERAL:</b> Clay (general)	<b>COUNTY:</b> Elbert
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Peter S. Hays	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> November 15, 2017	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> The Denver Brick Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Rob Tibbetts, Steve Helzer	<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> \$196,124.37	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> November 29, 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>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(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----- <u>Y</u>	(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--- <u>N</u>	(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 Bijou Clay Mine 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 by the Division on June 3, 2014. Mr. Rob Tibbetts and Mr. Steve Helzer with The Denver Brick Company were present during the inspection.

The site is a 33.75 acre 112c Construction Materials permit for the mining of clay. The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$196,124.37, which appears adequate based on the current site disturbance level. A mine sign and boundary markers were observed as required by Rule 3.1.12.

The site was active during the inspection with the removal of stockpiled material by haul truck. The material is transported off-site for processing and the production of bricks. A front-end loader and motor grader were present in the stockpile area. The site is divided into three (3) areas; a stockpile area located in the center of the site, a partially reclaimed mining area north of the stockpile area and the current mining area south of the stockpile area.

The north mining area appears unchanged since the last inspection. The area consists of a basin with 3H:1V graded slopes on the north, south and west sides. The slopes were partially vegetated and contained numerous erosion rills and gullies. The slopes lacked the required topsoil placement as noted in the last inspection report. The east side of the basin consists of a berm with a stormwater outfall at the low part of the berm. The erosion control structures installed at the outfall are damaged and need to be repaired by the Operator to prevent offsite damage from occurring. The stockpile area contained several clay stockpiles. The south mining area was mined this year in the southwest corner of the area according to the Operator. The west and south slopes of the mined area were graded at the approved 3H:1V slope, however topsoil has not been replaced on the slopes. The Operator stated additional grading and contouring will be done in the area prior to placement of topsoil. The east side of the mined area was benched by clay type (red and buff) with topsoil and overburden above the highwall. The south mining area contained two areas of standing water in the pit floor. As stated in the last inspection report, the Division recommends the Operator construct a diversion ditch around the northern side of the area to divert stormwater around the pit.

The approved post-mining land use is rangeland. A topsoil stockpile was located northwest of the stockpile area and overburden stockpiles were located between the stockpile area and the north mining area and southeast of the stockpile area. The stockpiles were vegetated and appeared stable. Noxious weeds including Canada thistle and diffuse knapweed were observed during the inspection. The Operator was reminded of the requirement to implement the approved weed control management program for the site.

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



Bijou Clay Mine sign



View of the north mining area from the northeast corner looking south





View of the south mining area from the northwest corner looking southeast



View of the south mining area from the northwest corner looking southeast





View of the south mining area from the northeast corner looking south



View of the south mining area from the northeast corner looking southwest