




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: Buffalo No 1	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1978-011	MINERAL: Clay (general)	COUNTY: Elbert
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Peter S. Hays	INSP. DATE: November 30, 2017	INSP. TIME: 13:00
OPERATOR: General Shale Brick, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jason McGraw	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Partial Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$42,491.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: December 12, 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>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>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>Y</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 Buffalo No. 1 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 by the Division on August 12, 2014. Mr. Jason McGraw with General Shale Brick, Inc. was present during the inspection.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty in the amount of \$42,491.00, which appears adequate to reclaim the site based on this inspection. The mine sign and boundary markers were observed as required by Rule 3.1.12. All mining disturbance was contained within the permit boundary.

The site is permitted for 210 total acres with a maximum allowed disturbed acreage of 30 acres. The site is divided into two separate mining areas, Area III and Area IV. Area IV is undisturbed and was not observed during the inspection. Area III is 8.9 acres in size and is campaign mined by the Operator. Clay is mined for a period time, stockpiled on-site and transported to the processing facility in Lakewood for the production of bricks as needed by the Operator. The site was not active during the inspection. The Operator reported the last mining activity occurred in 2016 and the most recent removal of stockpiled material occurred in June 2017.

The site status was accurately depicted by the Operator in the 2017 Annual Report. The north portion of the site is used for stockpile storage. The stockpile area contained a clay stockpile, well-vegetated topsoil and overburden stockpiles and a small stockpile of waste brick (grog). The importation of the waste brick for inert fill was approved by the Division in 2015 under TR-01. The southern portion of the site contains the mining excavation in the western half of the area and a stormwater detention pond and an unmined area in the eastern half of the area. The mine pit contained stormwater which should be pumped out by the Operator to comply with the CDPHE 72-hour release requirement for captured stormwater. The stormwater detention pond was dry at the time of the inspection. The mining highwall has been backfilled along the western boundary. The backfill was estimated at a 3H:1V slope and was vegetated with volunteered vegetation consisting of annual weeds. The Operator stated the backfill area had not been topsoiled or reseeded as part of the reclamation activities. The mine excavation will continue to the east and then to the north during the life of the mine.

The approved post mining land use for the site is rangeland. No reclamation besides the highwall backfill has been conducted at the site. Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Inspection Contact Address

Mr. Jason McGraw
General Shale Brick, Inc.
1845 W. Dartmouth Ave.
Denver, CO 80110

Ec: Wally Erickson, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Buffalo No. 1 Area III mine sign



View of the southern portion of the site from the stockpile area looking south



View of the pit and backfilled western highwall with volunteered vegetation looking north



View of the stockpile area from the NW corner of the pit looking north