

**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/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
M-1990-094	Gravel	Mesa
INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Amy C. Yeldell	February 23, 2018	13:00
<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Greg Monger	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
	M-1990-094 INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	M-1990-094 Gravel   INSPECTOR(S): INSP. DATE:   Amy C. Yeldell February 23, 2018   OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: TYPE OF OPERATOR

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Normal I&E Program	Complete Bond	\$52,600.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA	None	None
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:
Cloudy	Amy Geldell	March 7, 2018

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:** Hydrologic Balance

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: The Division has no evidence that the operator has a valid well permit, substitute water supply plan, or approved water augmentation plan for the exposed groundwater at the site. This is a problem related to 34-32.5-116(4)(h) of the Colorado Revised Statutes and 3.1.6(1)(a) of the Construction Materials Rules and Regulations governing injury to existing water rights.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall demonstrate that the operation is in compliance with the Office of the State Engineer, show evidence that the operator is taking measures to bring the site into compliance with the SEO, or backfill the pits to at least two feet above the groundwater surface by the corrective action date specified.

# **CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 5/07/18

### **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The Orchard Grove Industrial Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 34 permitted acres. The site located one mile west of Grand Junction and is accessed from River Road. Greg Monger of Parkerson Construction, Inc. represented the operator and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

The mine identification sign and affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance with Rule 3.1.12. A signs is affixed to the scale house. The scale and scale house are located off of the 23 ¼ Road side of the pit. The permit boundary is delineated by fences.

This site was inactive at the time of the inspection. Mining is occurring in the south western portion of the permit boundary. A pit approximately 3 acres in size has been inundated. The excavation is approximately 15 feet deep with 7 feet of water. The total highwall length/ perimeter is estimated to be 1,500 feet long.

This site has large amounts of imported concrete. Most of it appears to be free of exposed rebar. The operator is reminded of Rule 3.1.5(8) which provides guidelines of what may be imported and used as backfill. Given the large volume of concrete on site the Division will need to bond for pushing this material into the pit. The operator can reduce this liability by placing some of the material on site in the mined out portions of the pit.

There is a gate on the east side of the pit that give access to 23 ½ Road and the Elam's batch plant is adjacent to the pit.

No equipment or fuel is located on site. A large water tank is located by the previously processed stockpiles and is used to support the plant when it is on site. The southeastern corner of the pit has several large stockpiles, all of which appear to be stable and free of erosion.

Mr. Monger indicated that Parkerson has no water rights and the pond will be backfilled with reject material as mining progresses. Regardless of if a pond will remain post mining, a water augmentation plan and gravel well pond permit are required from the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR). A DWR records search indicated that no such permit exists. This is cited as a problem.

A further search into the permit file indicated that in 2000 this issue was discussed with Bob Oswald of the Division. The acreage associated with the potential "alternative" surface reclamation was never clarified. The Division either needs proof of water rights for all the exposed ground water or we will bond for a complete backfill of all exposed groundwater or there combination of. Furthermore if the inert fill on site is to be used for backfill the Division will need assurances that enough material is available on site or we will have to bond for the importation of fill material.

The Division currently requires a financial warranty amount of \$52,600.00 for this site. The last surety increase (SI-2) took place in 2008. The cost to import and/or backfill a pit is significant. The Division will allow time to address the water rights issue before recalculating the bond.

Since the inspection a Succession of Operators application has been submitted to transfer the pit to Kilgore Companies LLC dba Elam Construction. This inspection will also serve as the SO-1 inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-254-8511 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

# PHOTOGRAPHS













#### **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 Y	(RD) ROADS <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>PB</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES Y	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION Y
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>NA</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(ST) STIPULATIONS Y
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>NA</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

**Inspection Contact Address** 

Greg Monger Parkerson Construction, Inc. 710 S. 15th St Grand Junction, CO 81501

Jon Muller Kilgore Companies LLC dba Elam Construction 556 Struthers Ave. Grand Junction, 81501 CO

Enclosure

CC: CC: Russ Means, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS