

# 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:
Menzer Quarry	M-1976-009-HR	Granite, granite gneiss	El Paso
INSPECTION TYPE:	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Timothy A. Cazier	January 29, 2018	14:15
OPERATOR:	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Schmidt Construction Company	Dan Chavez, Mark Heifner	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION:	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Priority	Partial Bond	\$456,000.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:	
NA	None	None	
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:	
Clear	Thing als	March 12, 2018	

## **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>Y</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES $\underline{Y}$	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE $\underline{Y}$	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN Y	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION $\underline{Y}$	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS NA	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <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 site visit was conducted as a priority inspection in part as a result of the Division receiving non-specific objection letter references of non-compliance at quarry operations in the vicinity of the proposed Hitch Rack Ranch Quarry. The Permittee (Schmidt Construction) was represented by Messrs. Dan Chavez and Mark Heifner. Tim Cazier and Amy Eschberger represented the Division. The Menzer Quarry is accessed from Turkey Canyon Rd about 16 miles south of Colorado Springs. The access road is approximately 2.5 miles from Hwy 115 to the active pit area. This is a 112c granite mine. It was operating at the time of the inspection.

<u>Availability of Records:</u> Annual fees are paid through December 2017. The previous inspection was on June 30, 2016. The approved post-mine land use is forestry. There are no open infractions.

<u>Backfilling and Grading:</u> The highwalls are benched with 40-foot widths at 30 to 40 feet in height and backfilled with a blend of topsoil and fines. Sufficient backfill material appeared to be available.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: No overburden piles were observed.

<u>Explosives:</u> Mr. Chavez indicated Buckley Powder performs the blasting for the Menzer Quarry. He said the blasting plan is kept at Schmidt Construction's Colorado Springs office.

<u>Financial Warranty:</u> The \$456,000 bond held by the Division is adequate for the observed mine disturbance.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to fish or wildlife was observed.

<u>Hydrologic Balance</u>: 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 (imagery from 6/9/2017) was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 82 acres of major disturbance (defined by removal of all vegetation and surficial soils and/or rock) plus 18 +/- acres of minor disturbance (defined by exploration roads and/or some vegetation clearing). High walls appeared stable (see **Photos 1** and **2**). Mr. Chavez indicated an interest in expanding to the west which is federal land managed by the BLM. The Division has recent experience in Fremont County with a quarry successfully filing an amendment to expand the quarry westward into federal land managed by the BLM.

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite.

<u>Reclamation Success:</u> Reclamation is progressing on the upper benches on the south side of the permit area.

<u>Revegetation:</u> Vegetation appears well established on the upper benches on the south side of the permit area. No noxious weeds were observed.

<u>Sediment Control:</u> The mine has several sediment traps positioned along the haul road (see **Photo 3**). No erosion problems were observed and no additional BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection. The main sediment pond on the east side of the permit area had been cleaned out since the previous inspection (see **Photo 4**).

<u>Support Facilities On-site:</u> A screen plant, conveyors, and associated equipment were observed on site.

<u>Signs and Markers:</u> The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 5**) and boundary markers were observed to delineate the permit boundary (see **Photo 6**).

Permit Stipulations: There are no outstanding permit stipulations or commitments.

<u>Storm Water MGT Plan:</u> No oil or fuel spills observed. Stormwater drains to the sediment traps or pond and infiltrates.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at <a href="mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us">tim.cazier@state.co.us</a> if you have any questions regarding this report.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. Highwall (looking SE).

# **PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. West highwall (looking west).



Photo 3. Sediment trap along main haul road (looking NNE).

# **PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Sediment pond on east side (looking south).



Photo 5. Permit sign at entrance (SW corner).

## **PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Typical permit boundary sign (west side highwall).

# **Inspection Contact Address**

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ec: Amy Eschberger, DRMS
DRMS file
Dan Chavez, Schmidt
Mark Heifner, consultant