April 9, 2018

**Jason Burkey** 

P.O. Box 3609

Grand Junction, CO 81502



**COLORADO** Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

### RE: Virginia Acres, Permit No. M-1990-021, Unresolved Problem(s) Noted in a Past Inspection Report

Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County

Dear Mr. Burkey:

According to records kept by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, some problem(s) noted in a past mine site inspection report have not been corrected. If the problem(s) have already been corrected, documentation of the corrective actions taken to correct the problem(s) must be submitted to our office.

Please see the enclosed inspection report for the above noted mine site, issued as a result of a past inspection of this site. Problems noted in this report that remain unresolved according to our records, have been highlighted.

To avoid potential future enforcement actions for non-compliance with State Statutes, Rules and Regulations, and/or conditions specified in your permit for this site, you must submit compliance documentation with the corrective actions by *Friday*, *June 08, 2018*.

If you require additional information, or have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. 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

Sincerely,

Amy Geldell

*Amy Yeldell* Environmental Protection Specialist Department of Natural Resources Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety Phone: (970) 254-8511 Fax: (970) 241-1516

Cc: Russ Means, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS





## 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:
Virginia Acres	M-1990-021	Sand and gravel	Mesa
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b>	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Stephanie J. Mitchell	November 16, 2017	13:00
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Compar	Jason Burkey	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
County			<b>.</b>

REASON FOR INSPECTION:		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Normal I&E Program		Complete Bond	\$30,000.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA		None	None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE: December 15, 2017
	T	mitmele	

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:** Reclamation Success

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: Failure to follow approved reclamation plan, or current reclamation plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (1). The operator must follow approved reclamation plan or provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the operator intends to conduct reclamation.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved reclamation plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 2/15/18** 

#### **OBSERVATIONS**

This was a normal monitoring inspection of the Virginia Acres, DRMS File No. M-1990-021 operated by Old Castle SE Group, dba United Companies of Mesa County. This site is located 3 miles east of Grand Junction, Colorado in Mesa County and is accessed from C ½ Road off of 30 Road. I, Stephanie Mitchell of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety conducted the inspection. Mr. Jason Burkey of United Companies accompanied me on the inspection. Mr. Pete Firmin of Colorado Parks and Wildlife who is representing the Landowner, CPW was also in attendance.

This is a 17.7 acre 112c operation. Mining is complete and the Operator has completed reclaiming the site with some revegetation success in except for the area located near the entrance of the pit- northern portion of the permit area. This area only has Rabbit Brush sparsely established. The perimeter side slopes of the pit have been graded to a 3:1 horizontal to vertical ratio. All pond slopes are successfully reclaimed. The post mining land use is Recreation. The south portion of the permit area consists of several ponds reclaimed for wildlife habitat. The ponds are adjacent to the Colorado Riverfront Trail.

Virginia Acres has been problematic for revegetation establishment in an area less than 3 acres. United Companies has submitted several Technical Revisions to the Division changing seed mixes in 2010 and 2014. At this point the Division suggests submitting another Technical Revision to include soil testing. There could be an imbalance in nutrients to secure revegetation efforts, such as high salinity or nitrogen. This is noted as a problem at the beginning of this inspection report. Please submit a Technical Revision to the Division by February 15, 2018 to include soil test results and an approach to rectify the growth medium with additional soil amendments.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Stephanie Mitchell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 South 3rd Street, Room 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, phone number 970.242.5025.

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**





#### PERMIT #: M-1990-021 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: SJM INSPECTION DATE: November 16, 2017



#### **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

29 DE		
<u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY Y	(RD) ROADS <u>Y</u>
√СЕ <u>Ү</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING Y	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>N</u>
/TAILING <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Ү</u>
)MPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>Y</u>
5 <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>PB</u>
/ASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION Y	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>N</u>
ERIALS <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>N</u>	н. н. В. <sup>15</sup>

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 Jason Burkey Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County P.O. Box 3609 Grand Junction, CO 81502

CC: Pete Firmin, CPW