

STATE OF COLORADO

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman St., Room 215
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3567
FAX: (303) 832-8106



PERFORMANCE WARRANTY

Operator: Lincoln County
Operation: Gaede Pit
Permit Number: 4-1978-051

This form has been approved by the Mined Land Reclamation Board ("Board") pursuant to the Mined Land Reclamation Act (C.R.S. § 34-32-101 et. seq.) ("Hard Rock Act") and associated Rules (2 C.C.R. 407-1) ("Hard Rock Rules") and the Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials (C.R.S. § 34-32.5-101 et. seq.) ("Construction Materials Act") and associated Rules (2 C.C.R. 407-4) ("Construction Materials Rules"). Any alteration or modification of this form, without approval by the Board shall result in the performance warranty being invalid and result in the voiding of any permit issued in conjunction with such invalid performance warranty and subject the operator to cease and desist orders and civil penalties for operating without a permit pursuant to sections 34-32-123, C.R.S. of the Hard Rock Act and 34-32.5-123, C.R.S. of Construction Materials Act.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT:

WHEREAS, the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Act, C.R.S. § 34-32-101 et seq. (the "Hardrock Act"), as amended, and the Colorado Land Reclamation Act for the Extraction of Construction Materials, C.R.S. § 34-32.5-101 et seq. (the "Construction Materials Act"), as amended (collectively the "Acts"), provide that no permit may be issued until the Mined Land Reclamation Board (the "Board") receives a performance warranty consisting of the Operator's written promise to comply with the requirements of the Hardrock or Construction Materials Act, whichever is applicable.

WHEREAS, Lincoln County (the "Operator"), has applied for a permit to conduct a mining operation known as Gaede Pit (the "Operation") on certain lands in Lincoln County, Colorado. These lands are described in the permit application, as amended and supplemented, and are referred to herein as the "Affected Lands."

WHEREAS, in its application for the permit, the Operator has agreed to be bound by all requirements of the Hardrock or Construction Materials Act and all applicable rules and regulations of the Board, as amended from time to time.

WHEREAS, the Operator hereby gives the Board this performance warranty pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 34-32-117(2) or 34-32.5-117(2), and herein promises the Board that it will comply with all applicable requirements of the Hardrock or Construction Materials Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Operator hereby promises the Board that it will comply with all applicable requirements of the Hard Rock or Construction Materials Act and applicable rules and regulations of the Board.

The Operator hereby promises the Board that it will comply with all of the terms of the application for a permit, as amended and supplemented, as well as any conditions attached to the permit by the Board.

The Operator promises the Board, pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 34-32-112(1)(d) or 34-32.5-112(1)(b)(IV), that it has the lawful authority to enter upon the Affected Lands to conduct mining operations, including, but not limited to, reclamation. The Operator further recognizes the right of the Board to enter to reclaim lands affected by the Operation.

The description of lands herein is for convenience of reference only, and no error in such description, revision of the permitted mining area, or disturbance by the Operator of lands outside of the permitted mining area shall alter or diminish the Operator's obligation hereunder, which shall extend to the reclamation of all such lands disturbed.

The obligation of the Operator hereunder is such that, if the Operator shall successfully comply with the requirements of the Hardrock or Construction Materials Act, applicable rules and regulations, and the permit, then the Board, upon a finding that the Operator has so complied, shall release this performance warranty, and the Operator from its obligation hereunder. The obligation of the Operator hereunder shall continue until released by the Board in accordance with applicable law.

The Operator promises to be responsible for the cost of reclamation up to the amount established by the Board and has attached hereto its financial warranty, in accordance with C.R.S. §§ 34-32-117(3) or 34-32.5-117(3). The Operator agrees that it will maintain a financial warranty (or warranties) covering the Board's estimated costs of reclamation in good standing for the entire life of the permit. If the Operator is a unit of County or Municipal government, or is a department or division of State government, the Operator is not required to submit or post any other instrument of financial responsibility but hereby promises to be responsible for the cost of reclamation up to the amount specified by the Board.

If the Board determines that the Operator is in default under this performance warranty and has failed to cure such default, although written notice of such default and ample time to cure such default have been given, the Operator's financial warranty shall be subject to forfeiture.

This performance warranty may be executed in multiple copies, each of which shall be treated as an original, but together they constitute only one agreement, the validity and interpretation of which shall be governed by the laws of the State of Colorado. The provisions hereof shall bind and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their successors and assigns.