



Minerals Plan of Operations Inspection
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Royal Gorge Field Office



The BLM has conducted an inspection of your operations, which concludes whether the documented operations on file with BLM are compliant or non-compliant. Any non-compliance issues are reported in the Additional Actions Necessary section of this inspection.

Operation Type: ☐ 3600 ☒ 3809 w/ occupancy ☐ 3809 w/o occupancy

Date: Aug 9, 2018 Time: 11:18 Weather:	Operation Name: Gold Hill Mill Case Number: COC51792 CDRMS Number: M1994117
<u>Attendees</u> BLM: Stephanie Carter & Amber Sanderson Operator(s): Contacted, not present, Chris Voorhees (representative) works at beerthirst Other(s): CDRMS: Amy Eschberger	<u>General</u> Operation(s) are in compliance with documentation on file <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Operation(s) and disturbance on-site coincide with the operations and access on file <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Inspection Purpose: ☐ Pre-Operations ☒ General ☐ Final ☐ Trespass ☐ Complaint

Inspection Items	Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
1. Method of Operations			
Drilling, Trenching/Surface Excavation & Underground Excavation			
a. Drilling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Pad Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Mud Pits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Borehole Abandonment/Monitoring Well Conversion <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Pad Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Trenching/Surface Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Trench/Excavation Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Trench/Excavation Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Trench/Excavation Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Underground Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Portal Construction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Blasting Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Portal Reclamation/Conversion of Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Site Conditions			
a. Material/Waste Rock Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Erosion & Stormwater Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Man-made Structures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Weed Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Safety Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Interim Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Inspection Items	Compliant	Non-Compliant	N/A
3. Housekeeping			
a. Container Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Spills/Leaks Observed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Hazardous Substances/POL Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. General Housekeeping	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Access			
a. Road Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Berms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Security	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Signage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Surface Water Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Quality Assurance/Quality Control			
a. Routine Site Conditions Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Air, Water, Noise, Other Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Monitoring Reporting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Regulatory Submittals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Agency/Entity Permits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Final Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a. Exploration/Sampling Location	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Access Roads/Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Grading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Removal of Structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Free of Trash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Actions Necessary

Non-Compliance Issues to be addressed by Operator

2.e. 55 gallon Aerosol Paint steel drums need to be properly disposed of at a hazard waste dump. Removal of these drums will need to be addressed immediately. If drums were to leak/spill, could cause a safety issue to surface and ground water (Ref. images 11 & 13).

3.a. & 3.c. 55 gallon Aerosol Paint steel drums need to be properly disposed in a hazard waste dump. Removal of these drums will need to be addressed immediately. Store all POLs and Hazard waste according to OSHA regulations (Ref. images 11 & 13).

3.b. Oil spill located on private land, SW of the tailings pad near the mine entrance. Soils will need to be adequately cleaned to a minimum of 6 inches deep, bagged and disposed of at a landfill (Ref. image 12).

Final Notes

General Comments:

- 04/2013, BLM issued a Notice of Temporary Suspension for all the Gold Hill Mine and Mill operations. Mining or milling operations may not occur until the BLM receives a completed Plan of Operations from the operator and a NEPA analysis (ROD) is approved. Only then will BLM terminate the suspension order and mining/milling operations can continue.

- Mr. Steen submitted a Plan of Operations with an occupancy proposal in June 2017, where BLM then responded with a letter requesting additional information to complete his Plan.
- The entire mill has been restored, however at the time of the inspection BLM and CDRMS were unable to inspect the mill's interior, as Chris Voorhees did not have access.
- Future Objective: process historic tailings located on mill site now that the Mill has been restored. No future plans to mine the
- Scrap and garbage cleaned up and stored in a specific location
- Pond needs to be cleaned before milling begins due to the minimal space.
 - Alternative: Prior to milling, pond expansion or build an additional tailings pond to include space for increased amount of processing waste. If alternative is considered, the operator will need to follow all federal, state and county laws and regulations.

Proprietary Information: None

Date inspection shared with CDRMS: 09/13/18

Date inspection shared with Operator: 09/13/18

Images

Image 1:



Comment: Tailings pond is $\frac{3}{4}$ full of tailings waste

Image 2:



Comment: SW view of tailing pond and mill. Approximately 2'

Images

Image 3:



Comment: Storage area located S/SW of entrance and south side of the mill building.

Image 4:



Comment: Gas storage container located southwest of mill building

Images

Image 5:



Comment: Water storage for Winona shaft and pumped from Left Hand Creek (Steen owns water rights) through Lickskillet Gulch and Times Mine adit. Adit is stable and operator coordinated with the county to establish a permit to prevent subsidence during water transport through culverts.

Image 6:



Comment: Tailings building, located north side of tailings pad used as storage for during processing.

Images

Image 7:



Comment: Tailings surrounding approximately an acre of the mill site. Tailings pad is stable with vegetative growth and no evidence of recent disturbance.

Image 8:



Comment: Scrap material and storage area S/SW of mill building.

Images

Image 9:



Comment: Historic tailings that will be processed in the future.

Image 10:



Comment: Tailings pad containing new black HDPE piping for

Image 11:



Comment: Hazardous waste (aerosol paint drums) need to be disposed of properly and other POLs stored according to OSHA regs.

Image 12:



Comment: Oil spill on private lands. Operator needs to adequately clean contaminated soil and dispose of at a landfill. A spill contingency plan will need to be addressed in the Plan of Operations with BLM for future reference.

Image 13:



Comment: POL drums improperly stored

Image 14:



Comment: Is this used for stormwater control or waste water disposal? What is the purpose of this HDPE piping? No water/fluid flow during the time of the inspection.

Image 14:



Comment: Stormwater control pond to divert runoff from tailings pad.