




# 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.

|   |  |  |                             |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>MINE NAME:</b><br>Whitewater Pit 500                       | <b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b><br>M-1977-129   | <b>MINERAL:</b><br>Sand and gravel                                 | <b>COUNTY:</b><br>Mesa      |
| <b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b><br>Monitoring                         | <b>INSPECTOR(S):</b><br>Amy C. Yeldell   | <b>INSP. DATE:</b><br>October 29, 2018                             | <b>INSP. TIME:</b><br>09:00 |
| <b>OPERATOR:</b><br>Whitewater Building Materials Corporation | <b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b><br>Mark Gardner  | <b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b><br>112c - Construction Regular Operation |                             |
| <b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b><br>Normal I&E Program           | <b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b><br>Complete Bond   | <b>BOND AMOUNT:</b><br>\$287,500.00                                |                             |
| <b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b><br>NA                               | <b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b><br>None  | <b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b><br>None                                 |                             |
| <b>WEATHER:</b><br>Clear                                      | <b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b><br> | <b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b><br>November 2, 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>NA</u>  |
| (PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>  | (SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u> | (TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>      |
| (MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>    | (FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>        | (RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>  |
| (SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>        | (SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>    | (RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>  |
| (ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>    | (SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>    | (ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u> |
| (AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u> | (OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>        |                                 |

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The Whitewater Pit 500 is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 491.7 permitted acres with a 50 acre maximum disturbance. The site located one mile northwest of Whitewater, Colorado and is accessed from Coffman Road. Mark Gardner of Whitewater Building Materials Corporation 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 attached to the gate at the permit entrance. The permit boundary is delineated by fences or other features such as roads and the river.

The processing plant is outside the permit boundary and the minerals are owned by BLM and therefore will not be mined at this time. Scales and scale house are also outside of DRMS permit boundary in their processing facility area. All fuels to support the mining operation are stored at the processing facility. The majority of stockpiled material is also stored at the processing facility. This area was not inspected.

The discharge and settling ponds in Stage 3 appeared to be stable. The southern portion of Stage 3 remains undisturbed and reserved for future mining.

The northwest corner of Stage 6 has a large stockpile present. Approximate half or around 2.3 acres lies within mining Stage 6. Just to the south of the stockpile adjacent to the haul road is an area used to landfarm material removed from the settling ponds. The area slightly dips towards the south east and is bermed off from the rest of Stage 6. This affected area is approximately 5.8 acres. Standing water was observed in this area due to the large amount of recent rains. The undisturbed portions of Stage 6 remain in use as an irrigated agricultural fields.

Stage 3 Part B is mostly mined out. Approximately 40 acres have been affected. The southern highwall has been mostly shaped, sloping is continuing on the exterior highwalls. This phase remains dewatered for the time being. Upon complete of final reclamation a pond will remain.

Active mining is occurring in the western half of Stage 4 Part A. Mining is vertical on the active highwall which will then be backfilled to 3:1 slope. The southwestern highwall is mostly backfilled and sloped at a 2:1 while the eastern highwall adjacent to the undisturbed portions of this phase is sloped to a 1:1. There is a 100 foot setback from the Gunnison River. The pit is excavated approximately 20 feet deep. Highwalls appear higher since the topsoil is stored above the highwall in a berm approximately 10 feet tall.

The southern portions of the pit which includes Phase Z, 2, and W are inactive. Previously mined lakes all appear to have proper sloping and adequate vegetation. The plant site is stabilized with gravel. The metal shop and a few other smaller buildings still remain. These will be removed prior to resuming mining in this area. There was an empty fuel tank in secondary containment near shop and a waste oil tank attached to shop in secondary containment. No other fuel or hazardous materials area stored within the permit boundary.

According to Mr. Gardner approximately 10 acres a year is being utilized by mining. Over all very little erosion was observed. Weeds appeared to be maintained.

The Division currently requires a financial warranty amount of \$287,500 for this site. The bond was last recalculated with TR-4 in 2009. In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately, reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan the Division will be updating the

reclamation cost estimate. If the current bond is found to be insufficient the Division will send a Notice of Surety Increase under a separate cover.

No problems or violations were noted during this 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

**Inspection Contact Address**

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CC:  
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Enclosure

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

















