

**COLORADO Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety** Department of Natural Resources

# 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:
Whirlwind Mine	M-2007-044	Uranium/vanadium	Mesa
INSPECTION TYPE:	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Amy C. Yeldell	October 30, 2018	10:00
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Energy Fuels Resources (USA) Inc.	Todd Eldredge	112d-1 - Designated Mining Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Normal I&E Program	None	\$375,078.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:	POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGE	NCY:
NA	None	U.S.BLM	
WEATHER:	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DAT	Е:
Cloudy	Amy Geldell	November 15, 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 Y	(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 Y	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>Υ</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION Y
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP NA
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE Y	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION $\underline{Y}$	(ST) STIPULATIONS Y
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>Y</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 Whirlwind Mine is a 112d-1 underground Designated Mining Operation that includes a total of 31.9 permitted acres with a maximum disturbance of 22.6 acres. To date approximate 12 acres have been affected. The site located seven mile southeast of Gateway, Colorado. Eric Eckberg represented the BLM. Todd Eldredge of Energy Fuels Resources (USA) Inc. represented the operator. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

The site was inactive at the time of the inspection. On November 8, 2017 the site was granted its second continuous period of temporary cessation (TC-2). TC-2 began on September 19, 2017 and will end on September 19, 2022.

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. The entrance to the pit remains secured with locked gates. The portal also remains locked and secured.

In an effort to control weed infestation the site has recently been mowed. Weeds appear to be effectively managed. No erosion was observed and the site appears stable. Ground water monitoring data remains up to date. The Packrat mine workings were not inspected at this time.

Uranium and vanadium prices have begun to increase. The operator is hopeful that prices will soon pass the threshold necessary to resume operations. The Division explained what paperwork would be necessary to resume activity and come out of temporary cessation. It was stated that the water treatment facility would likely need to be updated as well. If any changes to equipment are necessary please submit these changes in the form of a technical revision.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$375,078 for this site.

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**

Scott Bakken/ Todd Eldredge Energy Fuels Resources (USA) Inc. 225 Union Blvd Suite 600 Lakewood, CO 80228

CC: Wally Erickson, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

Enclosure

### PERMIT #: M-2007-044 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: ACY INSPECTION DATE: October 30, 2018

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



### PERMIT #: M-2007-044 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: ACY INSPECTION DATE: October 30, 2018

