


**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: Riverside Parkway	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2007-005	MINERAL: Borrow material	COUNTY: Mesa
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy C. Yeldell	INSP. DATE: November 15, 2018	INSP. TIME: 14:00
OPERATOR: City of Grand Junction	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jerod Timothy	TYPE OF OPERATION: 111 - Construction by Government Agency	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: No Bond Held	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 29, 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>NA</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>NA</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>NA</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. Riverside Parkway is a Construction Materials 111 site which includes 14.70 acres that is in final reclamation. The site is located within city limits of Grand Junction, Colorado. Jerod Timothy represented the city and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection.

Most recently in 2016 the test plot areas were ripped and Triticale was seeded. The intentions were that this sterile quick germinating species would use up some of the excess Nitrogen allowing more desirable species to come afterwards. Unfortunately the Nitrogen levels were still too high and what grass did germinate was quickly burned up. Despite the lack of vegetation the site overall is stable with very little erosion. Weeds are limited to mostly nuisance species with very little state listed noxious species.

This site is continuing to struggle with the effects of soil nutrient imbalance. The majority of the pit is barren with some sparse vegetation. In the areas in which vegetation has been established it is mostly Kochia. In few areas where run-off from adjacent irrigation has run through the pit rangeland grasses have established. Of the areas with established vegetation density and species diversity is still poor. Successful plant establishment is likely due to the leaching out of nutrients which is not a viable solution site wide.

Leaching out the excess nitrogen is impractical given that Grand Junction is extremely arid and irrigation is extremely costly. Furthermore the natural depletion of nitrogen levels without vegetation is also sluggish. The operator is cautioned about adding additional soil amendments for fear of exacerbating the problem. The only practicable solution in staff's option is utilizing vegetation to consume the excess Nitrogen to bring levels down to acceptable ranges for rangeland plants. This may mean utilizing plants other than traditional rangeland species for a short period. Other species that may survive excess nitrogen levels are corn, sorghum, and varieties of Rye grass, barley and oats.

Staff discussed with the city the potential for changing the post mining land use since establishing vegetation has been extremely difficult. Given that this site is a 111 the post mining land use cannot be change. The operator would need to apply for a 112c over top of the 111 with the desired post-mining land use. Then once the site is 'double permitted' the Division could release the 111 permit. Then the operator would be left to achieve the final reclamation requirements of the approved 112c reclamation plan. The Division explained that this would require an entire new application and a new public comment period. Mr. Timothy stated that he would take this information back to his office and discuss their options with his staff.

This site has extended beyond the initial 5 year period to execute final reclamation. The previous extension request expired in final of 2018. The Division requests that the operator submit a letter indicating their intentions for the next season and how they plan to achieve final reclamation or close out the permit.

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

Jerod Timothy
City of Grand Junction
333 West Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501

CC:
Wally Erickson, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

Enclosure

PHOTOGRAPHS





