



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: Simla Highway Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1995-095	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: El Paso
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety-Related Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Timothy A. Cazier	INSP. DATE: February 21, 2019	INSP. TIME: 12:30
OPERATOR: Hill Top Gravel LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Blake Tope	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Related	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$11,280.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: February 26, 2019	

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>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</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>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</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>Y</u>	

Y = Inspected and found in compliance / 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 review process for succession of operator application. The Permittee (Hill Top Gravel) was represented by Mr. Blake Tope during the inspection. The Simla Highway Pit is accessed from Co Rd 125 (Simla Hwy) and is located approximately three miles south of Simla. This is a 110c gravel mine. It was operating at the time of the inspection.

The site was in a similar condition as when inspected by the DRMS on April 10, 2018. Large white pipes (see **Photo 1**) marking the corners of affected area boundary were still present. The active mining area was confined to this area. A product stockpile was observed in the affected area boundary (see **Photo 2**).

The site had recently been hydromulched prior to the previous inspection. It was noted that vegetation on the west side of the pit (east facing slope, see **Photo 3**) did not appear to be supporting new vegetation that would have been expected to grow during the 2018 growing season. I mentioned to Mr. Tope the topsoil stockpiled on the west crest (see **Photo 2**) was not utilized when reclamation was initiated on this slope in 2018, and that certainly is expected to make a difference.

The permit sign was in place at the entrance (see **Photo 4**). Schuler Terracing (the permittee until August 2018) had been removed from the sign. [The current permittee name, "Hill Top Gravel" needs to be added to the permit sign.](#)

As it has been less than a year since the last bond estimate was completed by the DRMS and no disturbances were observed requiring additional bond, the current \$11,280 bond is considered adequate.

Note: A revision to the permit will be required prior to mining outside the current approved affected area boundary. Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at tim.cazier@state.co.us if you have any questions regarding this report.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Affected area (active area) boundary markers (looking north).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)

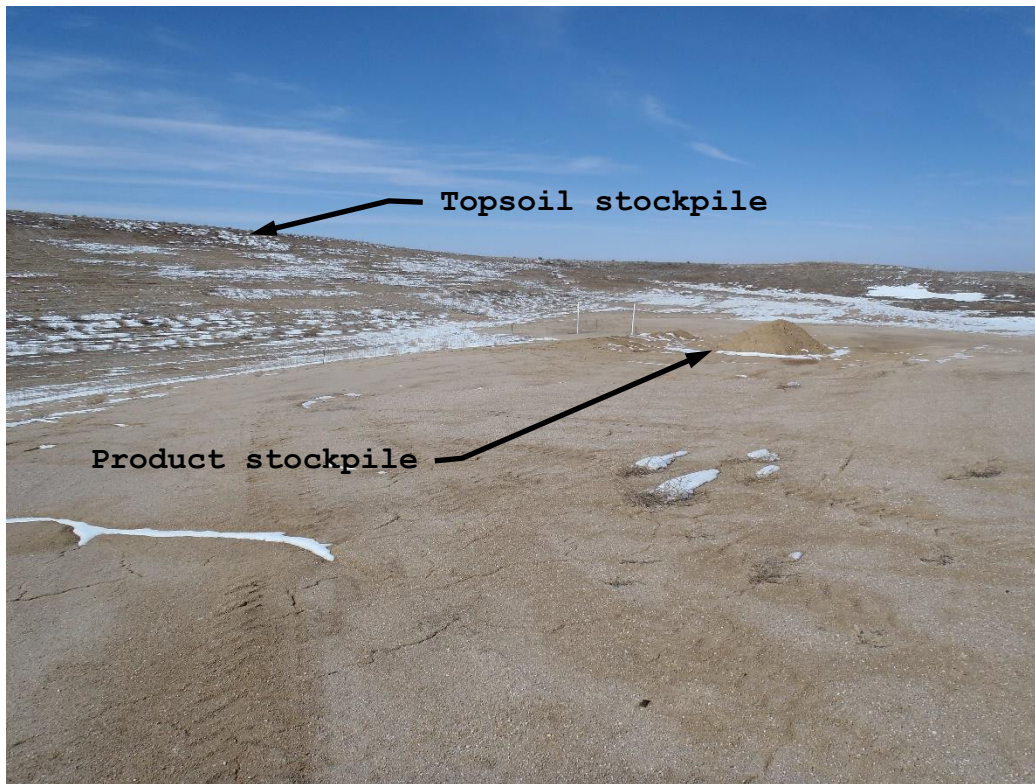


Photo 2. Active working area, (looking NW).



Photo 3. Previously hydromulched west slope not supporting vegetation (looking NW).

PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)



Photo 4. Permit sign at entrance, needing "Hill Top Gravel" added.

Inspection Contact Address

Blake Tope
Hill Top Gravel LLC
21225 Scott Rd
Calhan, CO 80808

ec: DRMS file