

**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:
Korinek #1 Pit	M-1979-131	Sand and gravel	Crowley
INSPECTION TYPE:	INSPECTOR(S):	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Patrick Lennberg	February 20, 2019	09:40
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
JH Sand & Gravel, LLC	Jim McCuistion	112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Normal I&E Program		Complete Bond	\$45,072.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA		None	None
WEATHER:	INSPE	CTOR'S SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE DATE:
Clear	Patrick Ly		March 5, 2019

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

INSPECTION TOPIC: Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

**PROBLEM:** The current mine plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-112 (3). The Operator needs to update the Mining Plan Map and Reclamation Plan Map to show the final configuration of the county lane.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update the Mining Plan Map and Reclamation Plan Map to show the final configuration of the county lane, including any setbacks the mining operation will need to maintain to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 5/04/19

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The Korinek #1 Pit was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of a Succession of Operators application that was received on December 3, 2018. The site was last inspected by the Division on March 17, 2017. The Korinek #1 Pit is located approximately 5.5 miles northeast of Manzanola, Colorado. The site can be accessed from the west by County Lane 13, or from the north by County Lane 15. The approved primary post-mining land use is rangeland, with an industrial/commercial area in the southeast corner of the permitted site. The new mine Operator/Permitee Jim McCuistion and the former Operator Gerald Korinek accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was clear and windy with snow covering the ground.

This is a 112c operation permitted for 45.2 acres to mine sand and gravel to depths of 20-25 feet. This site was initially permitted as a 110c operation before a conversion was approved in January 2010, adding 36.7 acres to the permit area. The permit area includes a pre-law gravel pit in its southeastern portion. There are several small stockpiles of different sizes associated with the pre-law pit scattered throughout this area and a small pre-law excavated pond. The maximum disturbance allowed at any one time is 10 acres including lands undergoing reclamation. The Division currently holds a financial warranty of \$45,072.00 for 10 acres of disturbance and this was found to be sufficient after this inspection.

The site was not active at the time of inspection, but there were several product stockpiles onsite. A mine sign was observed as required by Rule 3.1.12 but the sign should be updated to reflect current ownership and contact numbers. Boundary markers were also observed during the inspection consisting of metal tee-posts and 4"x4" wooden stakes.

A portion of County Lane 15, which initially ran southwest through the middle of the site, separating the prelaw gravel pit to the east and the active mining area to the west, was relocated by the County between early 2013 and late 2014. This road only serves as access to the Korinek property located south of the permit area. In the approved Mining Plan, the Operator stated that this road would need to be diverted around the mine, and would remain after reclamation. However, its final location is not shown on the approved maps. Approximately 2,000 feet of the road now runs along the northwestern and western edges of the permit boundary. It appears that the far northwestern corner of the permit boundary overlaps this road. The Operator provided a structure agreement with the County for this road in the approved Succession of Operators application. The realignment of the county lane is not reflected in the Division's files and is being cited as a problem in this report. The Operator will need to submit a Technical Revision, with associated \$216 fee by May 4, 2019, to update the Mining Plan Map and Reclamation Plan Map to show the final configuration of this road, including any setbacks the mining operation will need to maintain.

The Division estimates that the mining operation has currently disturbed approximately 8.6 acres, not including the 8.8 acres that are in various stages of reclamation (see enclosed Google Earth image of site). Of the 8.8 acres in reclamation it is estimated that up to 6.3 acres may be suitable for release. There is a section of reclaimed land that encompasses a historic fish farm structure. Gerald indicated that this area was never supposed to be included into the permit area but during the conversion from a 110 to 112 it was included. This area has been in reclamation since the conversion. The new Operator is encouraged to seek release for reclaimed lands that may be released from the permit area. This is a phased mining operation that is currently in Phase 1, with smaller portions of Phases 2, 3 and 4 also being mined. The maximum allowed disturbed

acreage for this site is 10 acres. Considering how mining has progressed in the past and how long it is taking to get mined land reclaimed it is recommended that the Operator consider submitting a Technical Revision to increase the maximum allowed disturbed acreage.

There appears to be an adequate amount of topsoil stockpiled in berms along the top of the highwall. These stockpiles appeared to be stable. In addition, there is a stockpile of approximately 1,600 CY of topsoil present in the pre-law gravel pit area. According to Mr. Korinek, this stockpile was left here by the County during reconstruction of County Lane 15, and it can be used for reclamation of this site.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Patrick Lennberg (303)866-3567 ext. 8114 or email at <u>patrick.lennberg@state.co.us</u> if you have any questions regarding this report.

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Jim McCuistion JH Sand & Gravel, LLC 5960 Ln 23 Sugar City, CO 81076

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

#### PERMIT #: M-1979-131 INSPECTOR'S INITIALS: JPL INSPECTION DATE: February 20, 2019

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: Mine sign



Photo 2: Typical permit boundary marker



Photo 3: County Lane on the inside of permit marker in the northwest portion of the site



Photo 4: Four areas in various stages of reclamation, the three lots to the right may be suitable for release



Photo 5: Looking west across the pit area



Photo 6: Looking east across the pit area



Photo 7: Topsoil stockpiles at the top of the highwall area



Photo 8: State of reclamation in the former fish farm area, 3.7 acres

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Photo 9: Area that is being prepped for reclamation, 2.2 acres



Figure 1: Korinek #1 Pit and associated areas

## **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY Y	(RD) ROADS <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>PB</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>N</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>N</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>N</u>	

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

Inspection Contact Address Jim McCuistion JH Sand & Gravel, LLC 5960 Ln 23 Sugar City, CO 81076

Enclosure

CC: