



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: Big R Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1988-052	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Elbert
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety-Related Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Patrick Lennberg	INSP. DATE: May 15, 2019	INSP. TIME: 08:00
OPERATOR: Colorado farms llc	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Bronco Mocevic	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Related	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$18,642.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: May 20, 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: Backfilling & Grading

PROBLEM: The site is utilizing off-site fill without prior approval by the Division per 3.1.5(9) of the Rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall provide a notarized affidavit, stating that the fill is, in fact, inert and addressing all requirements pursuant to Rule 3.1.5(9), part of which describes the intended use of inert/off-site fill by the corrective action date, 06/19/19.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 6/19/19

OBSERVATIONS

The Big R Pit was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was performed as a Surety Related inspection in response to a Succession of Operators. The site can be accessed from the west via Hunt Circle, which intersects Co Rd 21 to the west. The site can also be accessed from the south via Hunt Circle, which intersects Co Rd 29 to the east. The site was previously inspected by the Division on January 25, 2019. Bronco Mocevic with Colorado Farms LLC accompanied me during the inspection.

The current permittee for the Big R Pit is Colorado Farms LLC who acquired the permit from the Estate of Rick L Hunt during an auction process that also included the land surrounding the permit area.

The Big R Pit is a 110c operation permitted for 9.9 acres to mine sand and gravel. A shop and office building originally used by Hunt Construction, now used by Colorado Farms, and its associated parking lot is located just east of the permit area. A garage is located between the eastern permit boundary and the shop and office building. There used to be a single-wide trailer located next to the garage but is now gone. The site is divided by an interior road into two pit areas, north and south. The north pit contains a large topsoil stockpile along the north boundary and a shallow, regraded excavation area in the remaining area. The site is surrounded by agricultural land and the post-mining land use is rangeland.

The south pit (3.7 acres) contains a mining area with 1H:1V highwall slopes of 10 to 15 feet in height. It was noted in a 2017 and verified during this inspection there are two erosion features in the southwest highwall that are approaching the permit boundary. Several loads of topsoil were brought into the permit area during the construction of greenhouses elsewhere on the property. Additional fill material was also brought into the permit boundary during the greenhouse construction. Currently, the importing of fill material is not an approved aspect of the site Reclamation Plan and is being cited as a problem in this report. The Operator is required by Rule 3.1.5(9) to notice the Division of any proposed backfill activity not covered in the Reclamation Plan.

During the inspection the Operator pointed out a water supply well that is located immediately adjacent to the permit boundary to the east where the main pit access road is located. The water supply well is owned by Weld County and they require that the area surrounding the well be flat and open enough for trucks to maneuver and potentially fill from the well.

The approved Reclamation Plan calls for grading all highwalls to 3H:1V or flatter, ripping stockpiling areas and any temporary haul roads, replacing an average depth of 6 inches of topsoil across disturbed land, and revegetating the site for a post-mining land use of rangeland. In the 2016 inspection report it was documented that mining ceased in May 2015 and the deadline for final reclamation was May 2020. The new Operator stated that they are going to begin reclaiming the site so that the land may be planted with a hemp crop.

The Division was able to locate all permit boundary markers. All current mining is within the permit boundary but, again, the southern highwall is extremely close to the permit boundary.

The Division calculated the bond as part of this inspection and the current bond amount held was found to be sufficient.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

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

Inspection Contact Address

Ranko Mocevic
Colorado Farms LLC
6460 S Quebec Street
Centennial, CO 80111

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Permit Boundary markers

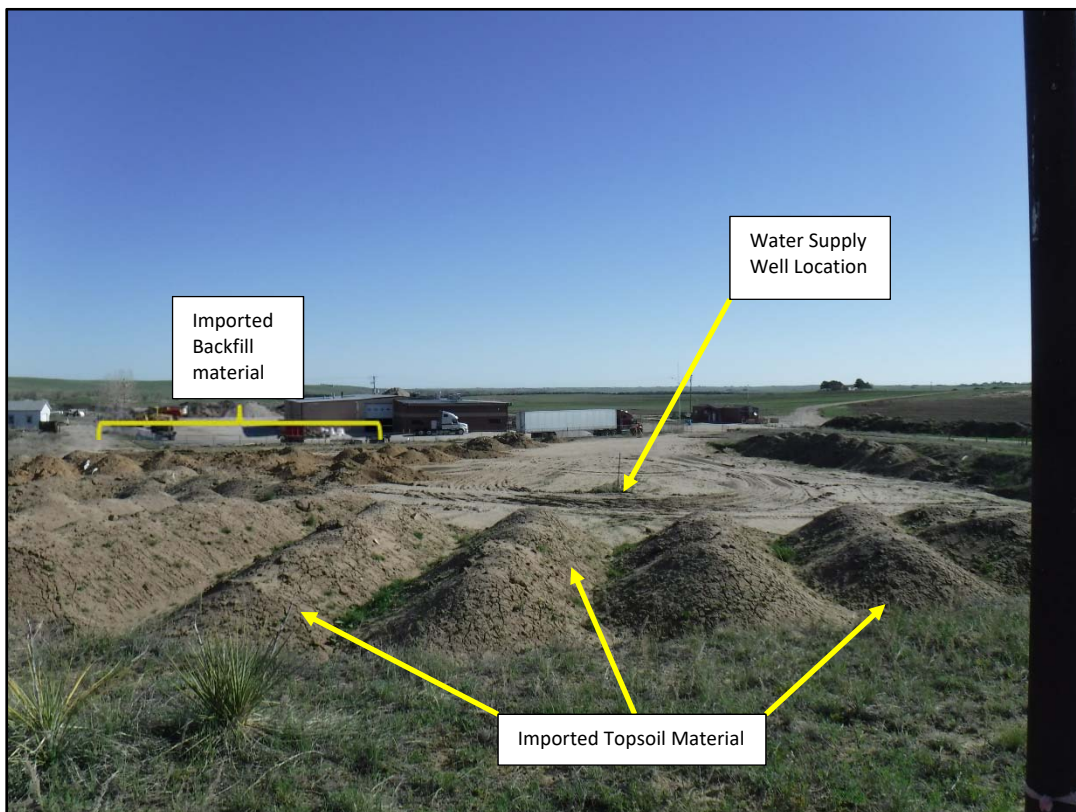


Photo 2: Southeast end of permit area at mine entrance



Photo 3: Southern highwall, looking west



Photo 4: Former mining and erosion features approaching permit boundary

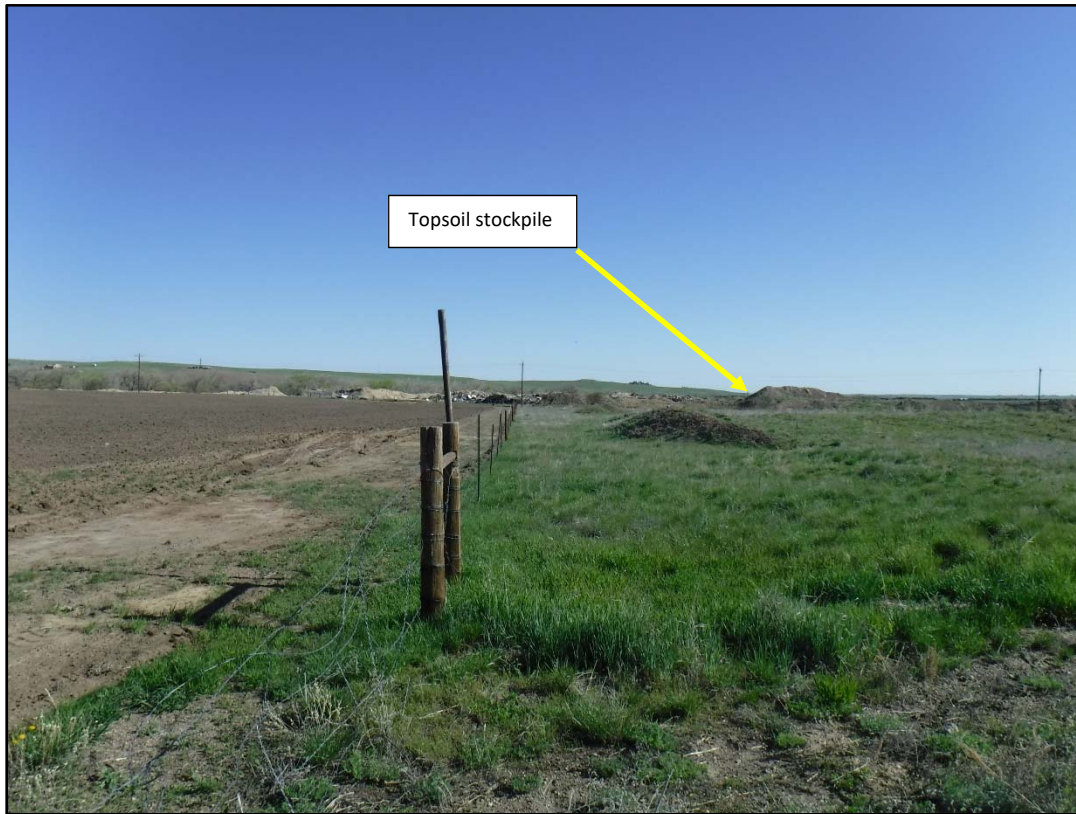


Photo 5: Looking from the southwest corner north towards the northwest permit corner



Photo 6: Looking east along the northern topsoil stockpile



Photo 7: Looking south from the northern stockpile towards the southern pit area

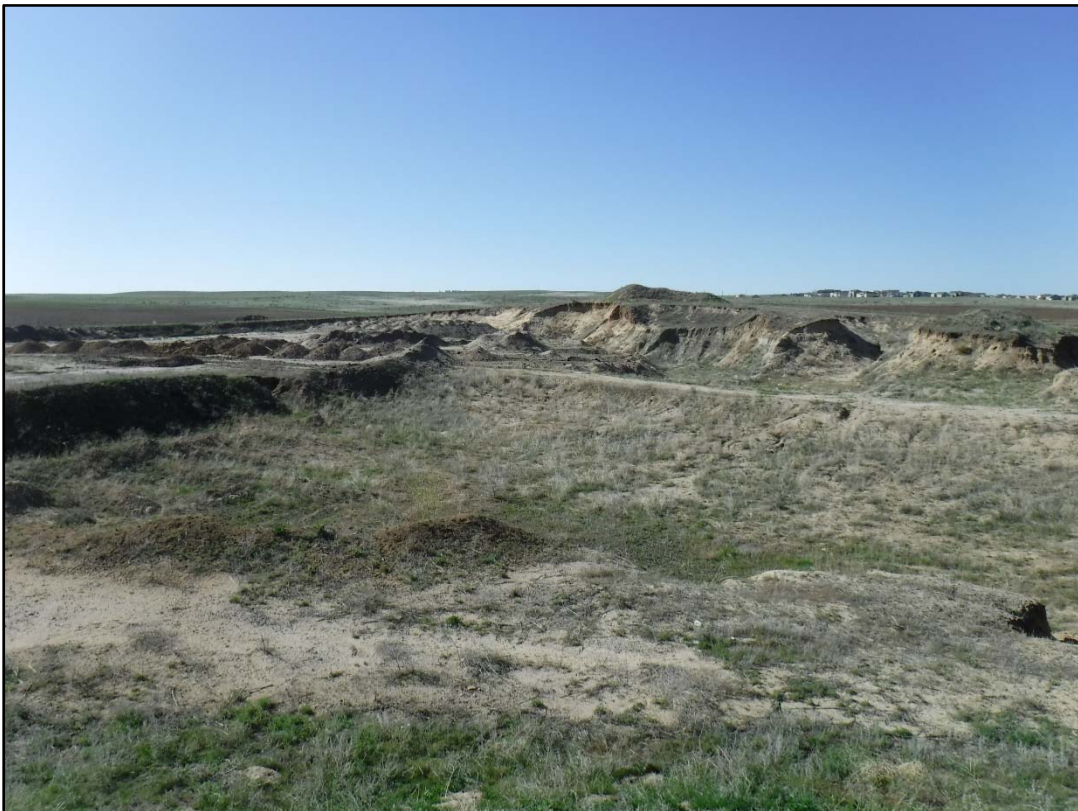


Photo 8: Southern highwall



Photo 9: Southern highwall looking west

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

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>PB</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>Y</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>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</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