

July 19, 2019

Tom Brubaker VALCO, Inc. 9121 Sunshine Meadow Pl. Parker, CO 80134

## Re: Rocky Ford East Pit, Permit No. M-1977-560, Status of Required Corrective Actions

Mr. Brubaker:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) is providing the following status update on the corrective actions required by the inspection report mailed on April 30, 2019:

**PROBLEM:** There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site (primarily Tamarisk). This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Rule 3.1.10(6).

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** By the corrective action due date, the operator shall implement the approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in consultation with the county extension agency or weed control district office, including specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied, and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, by the corrective action due date.

**STATUS UPDATE:** On June 25, 2019, the operator submitted a Technical Revision (TR-4) with the required fee including a weed control and management plan developed in consultation with the county extension agency. TR-4 was approved by the Division on July 17, 2019. <u>Therefore, the</u> <u>Division considers this problem to be abated at this time.</u>

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8129, or by email at <u>amy.eschberger@state.co.us</u>.

Sincerely,

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Amy Eschberger Environmental Protection Specialist

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

