


**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> County Line Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1987-016	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Lincoln
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Patrick Lennberg	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 21, 2019	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 13:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Lincoln County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Fred Lundy	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 110c - Construction Limited Impact	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$0.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> August 30, 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:** Markers

**PROBLEM:** The affected area boundary markers are missing or incorrectly placed. This is a problem for failure to maintain boundary markers around the affected area as required by Section 3.1.12(2) of the rule.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall conduct a survey and replace the boundary markers in the correct location(s). The operator shall provide proof to the Division, through photographic documentation, that this has been done by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 10/01/19

## **OBSERVATIONS**

The County Line Pit was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. The site was previously inspected by the Division on February 5, 2015 during a routine inspection. Fred Lundy with Lincoln County accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was warm, and the sky was clear.

The County Line Pit is located approximately 25 miles north of Limon, Colorado just south of the Lincoln County line. Access to the site is off of Co Rd 4D. The site is situated on the ephemeral streambed of the Vega Creek, which only flows during heavy storm events. When carrying water, the river flows northward. The affected land is owned by Charles and Elaine Covington. The pit is a 110c operation permitted for 9.9 acres for the removal of sand and gravel for county road maintenance and repair. The site is surrounded by rangeland and the post-mining land use is rangeland. A mine sign was observed as required by Rule 3.1.12.

The site was not active at the time of inspection and it did not appear that the site has seen any recent mining activity, the mine is listed as an intermittent operation. Mined material is stockpiled on the east bank of the creek. The only areas to be disturbed besides the creek bed are the stockpile area and the areas cut into the creek bank for equipment access. The approved Reclamation Plan includes grading all disturbed areas to a gradient of 3H:1V or flatter, and revegetating all but the creek bed, which will be graded smooth. In the streambed there were a few depressions where material was removed and pushed up on the east bank and stockpiled. During the inspection it was found that most of the permit boundary markers were knocked down (cattle) or were missing completely. The lack of permit boundary markers is being cited as a problem in this report. Some native grasses, forbs and annual weeds have volunteered into the disturbed area. All current mining is within the permit boundaries.

It should be noted here that two small screening stockpiles were left just north of the permit area by previous CDOT operations. According to the Acreage Reduction request (AR-01) that was approved by the Division on 05/21/2001, this northern portion (approximately 4.2 acres) which was undisturbed by the permitted operation was released from the permit area, and the stockpiles were left at the request of the landowner.

The Division currently holds no financial warranty because it is a county operation.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

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

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Fred Lundy  
Lincoln County  
P.O. Box 39  
Hugo, CO 80821

cc: Michael Cunningham, DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Mine sign at entrance off of County Road 4D



**Photo 2:** Existing product stockpiles





**Photo 3:** Stockpiles remaining at the site from CDOT operation to the north of permit area



**Photo 4:** Boundary marker that was probably knocked down by cattle grazing





**Photo 5:** Looking east across permit area from west side of permit



**Photo 6:** Looking north across westernmost disturbed area, note state of revegetation

### 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----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</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>N</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>PB</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>Y</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