




**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> Coaldale Quarry	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-247	<b>MINERAL:</b> Anhydrite, gypsum	<b>COUNTY:</b> Fremont
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy A. Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 18, 2019	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 10:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Holcim (US) Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Julio Villon	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Partial Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$707,000.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> October 18, 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>Y</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>N</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 regular monitoring program. The Operator (Holcim (US) Inc.) was represented by Mr. Julio Villon who was present for the inspection. Tim Cazier represented the Division. The Coaldale Quarry access road entrance is located off Fremont Co Rd 6, about 0.5 miles off Hayden Creek Rd south of Highway 50 at Coaldale. This is a 112c gypsum mine. The mine was not operating at the time of the inspection, but Mr. Villon indicated product is hauled offsite regularly.

Availability of Records: Annual fees are paid through April 2019. The previous inspection was on April 28, 2015. The approved post-mine land use is wildlife habitat (reference AM-02). There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are privately owned.

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: The observed overburden piles were stable.

Explosives: Mr. Villon stated the mine has a blasting plan, which is kept in their Portland office (SE of Florence). He said they contract out the blasting to SW Energy.

Financial Warranty: The \$707,000 bond held by the Division is adequate for the observed mine disturbance. The DRMS will be reviewing the bond in detail if an amendment application is submitted or as a regular evaluation.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 48 acres, based on 2016 imagery. During the site visit, highwalls were estimated to at 25 feet in height and appeared stable (see **Photo 1**). Mr. Villon pointed out the relatively new radar system (see **Photo 2**) installed to monitor highwall movement. He also stated the mine has two seismographs they use for blast monitoring. Mr. Villon indicated Holcim is considering expanding the pit to the south. As the highwall on the south side is currently very close to the permit/affected area boundary, [any expansion in this direction would require an amendment to the permit.](#)

Off-site Damage: Some recently placed material (topsoil was indicated by site representatives) was placed (see **Photo 3**) outside what was thought to be the permit and affected area boundary (which are coincident for this permit). This was in an area previously disturbed (perhaps pre-law) and reclaimed. The equipment operator did not realize the area was outside the affected area boundary. The DRMS will perform a follow-up inspection to confirm whether or not this area is in fact outside the affected area boundary.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite. Road side ditches were clean. Mr. Villon stated the mine uses water for dust control on the haul roads when needed.

Reclamation Success: Some of older highwall benches had been essentially completed as of the previous DRMS inspection. However, much of this reclamation had been re-disturbed while expanding the pit.

Revegetation: A relatively small area of Downy Brome (cheat grass) was observed on the east side of the permit area, on the west facing hill near the active pit (see **Photo 4**). As it is a noxious weed List C species, it was not

cited as a problem. However, the DRMS recommends the Permittee implement a weed control program to reduce the spread of cheat grass on site.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: A dozer, loader and screen plant were observed on site (see **Photo 5**) near the large product stockpile.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 6**). Some affected area and boundary markers (see **Photo 7**) were observed. However, given the irregular shape of the Locations of accessible affected area boundary markers were collected using a Juno 3B handheld GPS.

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: Above ground fuel storage tanks were observed with secondary containment (see **Photo 8**). No oil or fuel spills observed. Stormwater is directed to either the pit floor to infiltrate or is directed to a sediment pond (see **Photo 9**) near the access road on the southeast corner of the site.

Topsoil: Topsoil has been striped and stockpiled. Stockpiles were observed to be stable.

Structures: No structures were observed within 200 feet of the affected area boundary.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)866-3567 ext. 8169 or email at [tim.cazier@state.co.us](mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1. Highwall in active portion of the pit (looking SW).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Radar system for monitoring the highwall (NE side of active pit).



Photo 3. Topsoil likely placed outside affected area boundary (looking NE).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Small area of Downy Brome/cheat grass.



Photo 5. Equipment and product stockpile observed in the processing area (SE corner, looking south).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Permit sign at entrance of Hayden Creek Rd/County Rd 6 (arrow indicates permit number).



Photo 7. Typical Boundary marker (south side).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 8. Fuel storage secondary containment.



Photo 9. Stormwater pond NE of site office (looking NE).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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ec: DRMS file