




**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> Preoperation Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy Cazier	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> July 16, 2020	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 14:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Holcim (US) Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Julio Villon & Tom Newman	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<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> September 2, 2020	

**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>N</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>Y</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

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This was a pre-operation inspection conducted by Tim Cazier (DRMS) for the 112c amendment (AM-03) application submitted to the Division on March 16, 2020 and filed for review after corrections were received on April 27, 2020. The Permittee (Holcim (US) Inc.) was represented by Messrs. Julio Villon and Tom Newman who were present for the inspection. 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 operating at the time of the inspection.

**Availability of Records:** Annual fees are paid through April 2020. The previous inspection was on November 7, 2019. The approved post-mine land use is wildlife habitat. There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are privately owned.

**Acid And Toxic Materials:** No acid or toxic materials are involved in this operation. Above ground fuel/oil storage tanks were observed and had adequate secondary containment (see **Photo 1**).

**Backfilling and Grading:** The reclamation plan submitted with AM-03 appears to be the identical text to that in the 2007 Amendment 2 (AM-02) application. ***More specific backfilling and grading plans for highwall benches and pit floors will be addressed through the adequacy review process of AM-03.***

**Explosives:** The mine has a blasting plan, which is kept in their Portland office (SE of Florence).

**Financial Warranty:** The \$707,000 bond held by the DRMS is being updated as part of AM-03 and will be finalized prior to the approval of the amendment.

**Fish and Wildlife:** No impact to wildlife was observed. Deer were observed NE of the active pit (see **Photo 2**).

**Hydrologic Balance:** No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed. Site representatives indicated they plan to drill 6 to 7 exploration holes in the Titanium Hill area which is part of the proposed AM-03 affected area expansion to the south. They committed to abandoning the exploration holes as would be required under Rule 5.4.2 for notices of intent (NOIs).

**Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan:** ***The record is unclear as to the maximum allowed disturbed area at any given time. The Division will clarify this with Holcim during the adequacy review process of AM-03.*** Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was estimated to be approximately 48 acres, based on 2019 imagery. Site representatives indicated final highwalls would be 30 feet high with 25-foot wide benches and an intra-bench angle of 65°. Highwalls were estimated to vary between 25 and 30 feet in height (see **Photo 3**).

**Off-site Damage:** The topsoil stockpile observed outside the affected area boundary during the June 18, 2019 inspection is being addressed through a boundary adjustment in AM-03. Otherwise, the operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review and site observations.

**Roads:** Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked offsite. Road side ditches were clean. Existing exploration/pre-law roads (see **Photo 4**) were used to access the proposed Titanium Hill area.

**Right of Entry:** Holcim owns the land within the permit boundary.

**Reclamation Success:** The proposed Titanium Hill expansion area appears to have been disturbed historically. The 1980 USGS Coaldale quadrangle map shows the area to be "Strip Mine" and the area exhibited some self-reclaimed disturbance (see **Photos 5 through 8**). Once disturbed again by future operations, it will need to be

reclaimed per the approved permit amendment.

Revegetation: No noxious weeds were observed. As stated above, once the proposed Titanium Hill area is disturbed again by future operations, it will need to be revegetated per the approved permit amendment

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

Support Facilities On-site: Observed processing facilities (screen plant & crusher) were portable. A loader, excavator and haul trucks were also observed.

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 9**). The Division reminded site representatives the affected area boundary for the expanded permit area will need to be marked.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed.

Structures: A power line (see **Photo 5**) was observed along the entrance road which is in or on the edge of the affected area boundary. A structure damage compensation agreement will be required for the power line (unless it is owned by Holcim) prior to the approval of AM-03. Seven other structures were observed on site that will require demolition for final reclamation: four buildings (see **Photos 10 & 11**) and three storage tanks (see **Photo 12**).

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. Fuel storage secondary containment. (near shop area).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Deer near extended topsoil stockpile.



Photo 3. North pit active highwall (looking SW).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Pre-law access road to Titanium Hill area (looking NW).



Photo 5. Titanium Hill area pre-law disturbance (circled) and power line along entrance road.



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. Titanium Hill area self-reclaimed pre-law disturbance and access road (looking SE).



Photo 7. Titanium Hill area self-reclaimed pre-law disturbance (looking NE).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 8. Titanium Hill area self-reclaimed pre-law disturbance (looking uphill to the west).



Photo 9. Permit sign (at entrance).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 10. Large shop building (looking east).



Photo 11. Smaller shop buildings (looking east).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 12. Three storage tanks (looking north from above product stockpile area).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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ec: DRMS file  
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