




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: Roman's Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2021-004	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Conejos
INSPECTION TYPE: Preoperation Inspection	INSPECTOR(S): Lucas West	INSP. DATE: February 24, 2021	INSP. TIME: 15:30
OPERATOR: Rio Grande Bentonite, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Larry and Lawrence Mondragon	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Preoperation Inspection	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: No Bond Held	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: March 3, 2021	

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>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</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>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>N</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>N</u>	

Y = Inspected / 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 Permit Application Review Process Established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety as a Pre-Operational Inspection. The Application for the Roman's Pit is a 110c operation located in Conejos County, approximately 5.5 Miles northeast of Antonito, CO at an elevation of 7888 feet. The application details an 8.68 Acre permit area that will support the extraction of unprocessed gravel and pit run. The material will be mined at a 3H: 1V slope by use of a Front End Loader and Excavator. The site will be reclaimed to a Post Mining land Use of an Industrial Commercial lay down yard in support of the Operator's construction company. Division staff has performed a reclamation cost estimate as part of the application review process and determined the minimum required financial warranty of \$2,000.00, pursuant to Rule 2.2.2 (1), will be adequate to reclaim the site. Please find the enclosed approval letter and supporting documents for submitting the Financial Warranty. Four Photos accompany this report to illustrate the site conditions.

The proper site identification signage was posted at the entrance to the site as seen in Photo One. A majority of the permitted acreage is undisturbed and un-utilized pasture land that is vegetated with low growing grass species and various weeds. Examples of the pasture like area can be seen in Photos Two and Three. No mining related disturbance exists on site, a small preexisting access road leads back to a depression located towards the south end of the property. The access road will also be utilized by the mining operations and will remain post reclamation. The depression located on the property is a pre-law gravel pit dug by Conejos County. The permit boundary intersects the existing depression in the northeast corner and will serve as the starting point for mining operations. The point of intersection can be seen in Photo Four. Mining will proceed in the northeast direction resulting in an 8.68 acre depression, including slopes that will serve as a lay down yard for the operator. The side slopes will be mined and reclaimed to a 3H:1V slopes with no revegetation proposed due to the lack of existing topsoil and the stability of the native material.

Based on the observations made during this inspection and the detailed contained within the permit application Division Staff has determined the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements of the Act and the Rules and Regulations. The application is ready for approval, please find the enclosed Decision Document for details.

All responses to this report should be directed to Lucas West at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver CO, 80203, by phone at 303-866-3567 Ext. 8187 or by email at lucas.west@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo One: View south, showing the proper notice sign posted at the entrance to the site.



Photo Two: View northeast, showing the pre-existing access road as well as the proposed permit area that consists mostly of unused pastureland. The permit area is vegetated with low grasses and some non-noxious weed species.



Photo Three: View east, showing another view of the proposed permit area. The standing water on site was a result of melted snowfall and no surface or groundwater is present on the site.



Photo Four: View east, showing the southwestern corner of the proposed permit area, where it intersects the existing depression on site. As seen on the slope and throughout the site, gravel and mixed aggregate materials are present at the surface with little to no vegetation or topsoil present.

Inspection Contact Address

Larry and Lawrence Mondragon
Rio Grande Bentonite, Inc.
9451 South HWY 285
Alamosa,, CO 81101

Enclosure: M-2021-004 Application Approval, Financial and Performance Warranty Request
Performance Warranty (Blank)
Financial Warranty forms (Blank)
Reclamation Cost Estimate Worksheet

CC: Travis Marshall, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist