


**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.

MINE NAME: Pioneer Farm	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2000-080	MINERAL: Sand	COUNTY: Arapahoe
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Jared L. Ebert	INSP. DATE: September 20, 2017	INSP. TIME: 10:30
OPERATOR: Pioneer Sand Company, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Russ Bartz	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$47,215.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: September 25, 2017	

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>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</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>NA</u>	(CI) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</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 monitoring inspection of the Pioneer Farms operation, DRMS Permit No. M-2000-080, operated by Pioneer Sand Company, Inc. (Pioneer). I, Jared Ebert of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS or Division) conducted the inspection. Mr. Russ Bartz with Pioneer accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was clear and windy at the time of the inspection. This is a 310.05 acre 112c operation in Arapahoe County. Pioneer was actively processing material at the site at the time of the inspection.

Backfilling and Grading:

The active portion of site currently consists of two small excavated areas. The primary excavation area is directly east of the Conoco oil well located in the southwest corner of the site. The slopes of the excavation were set at a 3H:1V ratio or less. Piles of product are located within the excavation area and on the affected land above the excavation to the east. A smaller pit was located north of the main pit. This small excavation is shallow with steeper side slopes.

Based on the Division's estimate, Pioneer has reclaimed about 68.5 acres of land. The reclaimed land is located to the north and west of the active mine area. The reclaimed land slopes gently to the west and the topography blends in well with the surrounding farmland. The reclaimed area appears stable.

Financial Warranty:

The Division currently holds a financial warranty for the site in the amount of \$47,215.00 in the form of a corporate surety. The Division has estimated the cost to reclaim the site, at its current level of disturbance, to be \$45,460.00. The updated reclamation cost estimate is attached. Given that the bond amount held is greater than the bond amount estimated by the Division, an increase in the financial warranty is not necessary at this time.

Hydrologic Balance:

The pit excavation was dry at the time of the inspection.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

Pioneer appears to be conducting the operation in accordance with the approved plan and has conducted concurrent reclamation at the site. The active mine area is about 9.5 acres in size. A small 2 acre area is located near the entrance to the mine site where a scale and scale house has been constructed. Small stockpiles of material were also located near the scale house.

Reclamation Success:

Based on a recent aerial photograph of the site it appears about 80 acre has been affected by the mining operation. Of this area about 68.5 acres has been graded, topsoiled and revegetated. The post mine land use approved for the site is cropland. The reclaimed area was observed. The landowner has planted the area with a grass crop. The area appears to have been recently harvested so it was difficult to determine the species of grass that has been planted. Annual vegetation and some weeds such as Common Mullen was observed within the reclaimed area.

Topsoil:

Topsoil was stockpiled within the primary excavation area.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. From the entrance to the permit area in the southeast corner of the site looking north. Scale house and scale.



Figure 2. From the southeast corner of the active mine area looking west.



Figure 3. From the southeast corner of the main mine area looking northwest.



Figure 4. From the southeast corner of the main mine area looking north.



Figure 5. Stockpile area located east of the main mine area.



Figure 6. From the northwest corner of the permit area looking south at the reclaimed land.

Inspection Contact Address

Wayne Brantley
Pioneer Sand Company, Inc.
630 Plaza Drive, Suite 150
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Enclosure: *1.) 2017 Reclamation Cost Estimate, CIRCES*

EC: Julie Sevier, Pioneer jsevier@pioneersand.com