




**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> Pueblo East Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2000-041	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Pueblo
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety-Related Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Patrick Lennberg	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> November 2, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> James Higgs	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Surety Release Requested	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$2,186,592.00	
<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> December 1, 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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</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>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</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**

The Pueblo East Pit was inspected by Patrick Lennberg with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). The inspection was completed as part of a surety and acreage reduction requests, submitted in accordance with Rules 4.14 and 4.17, received by the Division on October 27, 2021. The site was previously inspected by the Division on September 6, 2019 as part of surety related inspection. James Higgs with Fremont Paving & Redi-Mix accompanied me during the inspection. The weather was cloudy and windy.

The Pueblo East Pit is located approximately 10 miles east of Pueblo, CO. The access road is 2/3 mile east of the intersection of US Hwy 50 and State Hwy 231 (36<sup>th</sup> Lane). The site entrance is located off the access road about 2 miles southeast of Hwy 50. The access road is also used by the Rich Pit (M1985-218) and Blue Grass Gravel Pit (M2008-001). Pueblo East Pit is a Construction Materials 112c Operation for 448 acres and is approved to affect 188 acres. The affected lands will be reclaimed to developed water resources. The surety reduction request is a result of the Division approval of TR-7 which approved the spillway construction for the Stonewall Springs Quarry Southwest Reservoir. The spillway was the remaining item the Division needed to be completed so the reservoir could be released and the remaining bond held for the reservoir could be returned.

The Division sent notice of the release request to the Pueblo County Planning Department and Commissioners, the South Pueblo County Soil Conservation District, Division of Water Resources (DWR), and the landowner. The Division received one comment from DWR, see attached.

During the September 2019 inspection the Division determined the spillway approved under TR-04 is a critical component of the slurry wall infrastructure, which was designed to safely pass flood waters from a 100-year flood event. Until the spillway is constructed, the slurry wall remains at risk from damage during a flood event. Therefore, the Division was willing to reduce the financial warranty to \$1,318,581, which is 50% of the cost to install the slurry wall. The Operator needed to submit a new TR for approval of the redesigned spillway. Approval of TR-7 was for the redesigned spillway. During the inspection the spillway construction was viewed and determined to be consistent with TR-7. Since the last inspection, infrastructure for filling the reservoir has also been completed and it is ready to begin operation.

The Operator is also seeking release of the 96.82 acres that are associated with the completed reservoir while allowing for a 1.4 acre conveyor easement. The conveyor easement will allow for continued mining south and east of the reservoir. The Division is concerned that equipment may use the reservoir area for equipment travel and temporary storage which could be considered affecting land outside the permit boundary. The Division reminded the Operator any disturbances outside the new permit boundary could be subject to a possible violation. It was discussed in the field that clear visual barriers be installed to prevent accidental passage outside of the proposed permit area.

Based on observations made during this inspection the Division will approve the Surety Reduction request of \$1,318,581 associated with the reservoir from the currently held surety amount of \$2,186,592 for a new surety amount for Pueblo East of \$868,011. Additionally, the Division will approve release of 96.82 acres from the permit area associated with reservoir for a new Pueblo East permit acreage of 351.18 acres. Notice of the Division's decision regarding the release requests will be sent under a separate cover letter.

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**

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Looking at the recently constructed outfall of the reservoir in the southeast corner



**Photo 2:** Crest of outfall





**Photo 3:** Looking south from northwest corner of reservoir



**Photo 4:** Looking east from northwest corner, the rundown structure in center of picture is used for filling



**Photo 5:** Rundown structure used for filling reservoir



**Photo 6:** Typical conditions of maintenance road around reservoir





**Photo 7:** Looking west across reservoir



**Photo 8:** Conveyor belt corridor along south reservoir boundary



**Photo 9:** Conveyor belt corridor along south reservoir boundary



**Photo 10:** Conveyor belt corridor along southwestern reservoir boundary



East Plt  
Map by James Higgs  
Droned on 11/4/21

7,747,133 sf = 177.85 acres Total Disturbance  
- 98.24 acres Triview  
+ 1.42 acres Belt easement  

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81.03 acres Reduced Disturbance

