




## MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT

PHONE: (303) 866-3567

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 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> Aetna Exploration	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> P-2021-017	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gold, silver and lead	<b>COUNTY:</b> Clear Creek
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Preoperation Inspection	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Peter Hays	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> December 17, 2021	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 08:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Capital Prize Mine VII LLP	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Greg Sterett, Kent Sterett, Suellen Barnhard	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> MP - Mineral Prospecting	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> No Bond Held
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Windy	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> January 12, 2022

### 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>N</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>N</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 was a pre-operation inspection for the Aetna Exploration NOI application conducted by Peter Hays with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS). Mr. Gregg Sterett and Mr. Kent Sterett with Capital Prize Mine VII LLP and Ms. Suellen Barnhard with Earth Treasures Tours were present during the inspection.

The NOI application was received by the Division on November 1, 2021. The NOI application is considered non-confidential at the request of the Prospector. The Division issued a Notice of Deficiencies letter on December 1, 2021. The Prospector submitted a response to the letter on December 14, 2021. The Aetna Exploration NOI is proposed to be conducted at the Capital Prize Mine located at 1000 Biddle Street, Georgetown, CO 80444. The Capital Prize Mine is operated as a tourist mine. The Prospector is aware of the requirement to keep the tourist operation and the prospecting activities in separate locations and occurring at separate times.

The proposed prospecting activities include:

- The renovation of portals
- Rehabilitation of the existing main and branch tunnels to the Aetna vein
- Modernize and improvement of the mine ventilation system, railroad track and compressed air systems

During the inspection, the details of the proposed prospecting activities were discussed with the Prospector. The Prospector stated the portal and mine working indicated on the submitted map located north of the Capital Prize Mine in the Town of Georgetown would not be disturbed by the prospecting activities and would be removed from the application. The existing Capital Prize Mine tunnel extends to approximately 1,200'. The tourist operation ends at 1,000'. A large collapse is located at the 1,200' location preventing access beyond that point. The Prospector stated the tunnel extends to the 3,000', which is location of the Aetna vein. However, the blockage at 1,200' would need to be cleared and the tunnel supports would need to be improved and updated for safety to the 3,000' location. The Prospector also indicated they may want to conduct prospecting activities at the Cass Drift, located at approximately the 600' location, which was not included in the original NOI application.

The Prospector resubmitted the NOI application based on the discussions during this inspection on January 7, 2022. A review of the revised NOI application for the Aetna Exploration NOI will be conducted by the Division and any questions regarding the NOI will be sent under separate cover.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at 303.866.3567 x 8124, or by email at [peter.hays@state.co.us](mailto:peter.hays@state.co.us).

## PHOTOGRAPHS



View of the Capital Prize Mine portal



View of the proposed truck loadout area looking northwest from the mine





View of the proposed truck loadout area looking southeast from the road

**Inspection Contact Address**

Kent Sterett  
Capital Prize Mine VII LLP  
1000 Biddle Street  
Georgetown, CO 80444

Ec: Jared Ebert, DRMS