

## 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:                       | MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:           | MINERAL:                              | COUNTY:     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Kirtright Pit                    | M-1986-123                      | Sand and gravel                       | Larimer     |
| INSPECTION TYPE:                 | INSPECTOR(S):                   | INSP. DATE:                           | INSP. TIME: |
| Monitoring                       | Brock Bowles                    | February 15, 2022                     | 10:30       |
| OPERATOR:                        | <b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> | TYPE OF OPERATION:                    |             |
| Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. | Ken Coulson                     | 112c - Construction Regular Operation |             |

| <b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> |                        | BOND CALCULATION TYPE: | BOND AMOUNT:        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Normal I&E Program            |                        |                        | \$58,400.00         |
| DATE OF COMPLAINT:            |                        | POST INSP. CONTACTS:   | JOINT INSP. AGENCY: |
| NA                            |                        | None                   | None                |
| WEATHER:                      | INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: |                        | SIGNATURE DATE:     |
| Cloudy                        | Brak Samls             |                        | April 20, 2022      |

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

# **INSPECTION TOPIC:** Right of Entry

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: Failure to maintain legal right of entry per Rule 6.3.7. **CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The permittee/operator must provide proof of legal right to enter and conduct mining and reclamation operations.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 6/20/22

#### **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted by Brock Bowles of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Ken Coulson of Coulson Excavating Co (Operator) was present for the inspection. The Kirtright Pit is located 5 mile east of Loveland. The site is an active 112c operation with 79.8 acres permitted and the post-mining land use is wildlife. This inspection was carried out as a part of the Division's routine monitoring inspection program. At the time of the inspection it was cool, overcast and the ground was mostly snow covered.

The mine entrance sign was in place on the scale house at the entrance of the mine (photo 1). The site was mostly reclaimed and vegetated with the exception of the scale house and some older equipment near the entrance (photo 1). No mining was taking place, or has taken place for a while. This is evident by the amount and condition of the vegetation on the site (photos 2 & 3). No product stockpiles were remaining.

The SWSP for the Kirtright Pit expired in December 2020. An updated application has been submitted to DWR and is pending approval. According to the expired SWSP, the site contains 4 unlined ponds with a total surface area of 17.68 acres. This information is inconsistent with Exhibit F approved in TR2 (2015) which shows the site has 5 ponds that were installed after 1981 for a total of 21.59 acres. When the new SWSP is issued the Division will determine if the parameters described in the SWSP are consistent with the conditions on the mine site.

The southwest corner of the permit has 2 pre-1981 ponds for a total of 2.99 acres. The depletion of the Pre-1981ponds does not need to be accounted for. The operator has filed an Application for a Plan for Augmentation is scheduled to appear in water court in February 2024, case #19CW3157 to address the water in the unlined ponds.

On the southwest corner of the east pond, approximately 25 dump truck loads (piles) of soil have been deposited (photo 4). The soil appears to be topsoil by the amount of grassy vegetation in the soil. The fence and fence posts along Lacy Lane were cut and were placed off to the side giving access to this part of the permit. It is not clear who placed the soil or where it came from. No other disturbances were seen on the site, but it should be noted that the ground was mostly snow covered. The topsoil piles are not consistent with the reclamation plan and need to be addressed. The operator needs to incorporate the soil into the surrounding landscape and revegetate it or remove the piles altogether.

According to the 2021 Annual Report, no mining activity has taken place since Dec 2008. The 2010, 2014 and the 2018 inspection reports also state that mining has been completed. As per Rule 3.1.3, all reclamation shall be carried to completion within 5 years from the date the operator has ceased mining. The reclamation of the ponds need to wait until the Augmentation Plan scheduled for water court in 2024 is complete. All other reclamation items, such as removing the scale and scale house, should be completed before the court date.

The operator would like to maintain this permit to use as a processing facility for material extracted from the adjacent Stroh Pit (M-2002-78) where mining has not begun yet, and it is not known when mining will begin. Mining permits are for operations that are developing and extracting construction materials from its natural occurrence (Rule 1.1(30)). Sites that are only being used for cleaning, preparation and transportation do not need a reclamation permit as per Rule 1.2.1. Mining is complete at the Kirtright Pit and therefore reclamation needs to be completed (Rule 3.1.3), and lands within the current permit boundary cannot be used as a processing facility for another mine.

The original right-of-entry was signed by Mr. Virgil Kirtright in February 1986. According to the Larimer

County Assessor website, the land within the permit boundary is now divided into 4 different parcels all of which are no longer owned by Mr. Virgil Kirtright. A new lease agreement/right-of-entry needs to be submitted for each parcel within the permit boundary. Please see the first page of this report for additional information about corrective actions and corrective actions due dates.



## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photo 1 – Mine entrance sign, scale house and some equipment



Photo 2 - From the center of the pit area, looking west towards pond 1



Photo 3- From the center of the pit area, looking east towards ponds 2 and 3



Photo 4 – Soil piles on the southwest corner of the southeast pond

## **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

| The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation |
|--|
|--|

| (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

Inspection Contact Address Ken Coulson Coulson Excavating Company, Inc. 3609 North County Road 13 Loveland, CO 80538