



# COLORADO

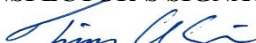
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety

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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Calhan Clay Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1993-080	<b>MINERAL:</b> Clay (general)	<b>COUNTY:</b> El Paso
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy Cazier, P.E.	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> June 29, 2022	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> The Summit Pressed Brick and Tile Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Julie Welte	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$43,890.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> December 1, 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>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>Y</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>Y</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 regular monitoring program. The Permittee (The Summit Pressed Brick and Tile Company or "Summit Brick") was represented by Ms. Julie Welte during the inspection. The Calhan Clay Pit is accessed from South Fairplay Rd. ¾ mile south of Hwy 24 and approximately three miles southwest of Calhan. This is a 112c clay mine. It was not operating at the time of the inspection.

Availability of Records: Annual reports are current, having been filed through April 2022, stating the last mining activity was March 30, 2022. The previous inspection was on May 9, 2018. The approved post-mine land use is rangeland. There are no open infractions. Both the surface and minerals are privately owned.

Acid And Toxic Materials: No acid or toxic materials are involved in this operation.

Backfilling and Grading: Sufficient backfill material (overburden) appeared to be available. Additionally, material could be pushed down from the crest on the east highwall (see **Photo 1**).

Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste: Overburden piles were observed and appeared stable.

Financial Warranty: The \$43,890 bond held by the DRMS was last updated in 2018 and included 10 acres of reseeded. This amount is adequate for the observed mine disturbance.

Fish and Wildlife: No impact to wildlife was observed.

Hydrologic Balance: A small amount of rain water was observed in the pit. No exposed groundwater was observed.

Gen. Compliance with Mine Plan: Scrapers are used to mine the site, as such it would not be practical, nor is it required to mine the slopes at 3H:1V. The operation appeared to be in compliance with the approved mine plan. The maximum allowed disturbed area is 9.98 acres. Google Earth was used to measure the disturbed area, which was approximately 8.93 acres, based on older 2019 imagery. Highwalls were estimated to vary between 12 and 15 feet in height on the west side, and no higher than 12 feet on the east side. Highwalls appeared stable (see **Photos 1 and 2**). Ms. Welte indicated Summit is considering expanding Phase I of the mine towards the east. Summit should be aware such an expansion would require an amendment to the permit

Off-site Damage: The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review and site observations.

Processing Waste: No processing waste was observed.

Roads: Haul and access roads did not appear to be a source of sediment that could be tracked to a paved road.

Right of Entry: Ms. Welte stated Summit's leases with the property owner expires in 2030. She indicated there are separate leases for the properties east and west of Fairplay Rd.

Reclamation Success: No reclamation has been initiated.

Revegetation: No revegetation has been initiated. No noxious weeds were observed.

Sediment Control: No erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection.

Support Facilities On-site: A loader was observed on site (see **Photo 3**).

Signs and Markers: The permit sign was properly posted (see **Photo 4**) and affected area boundaries were marked: T-posts were found on the north and south corners of the east side (see **Photo 5**), with berms on the north and east boundaries (see **Photos 3 and 6**). A fence delineates the west boundary, but the north and south

corners were not explicitly marked. [The DRMS strongly recommends these two corners be marked in the field.](#) Ms. Welte committed to providing the DRMS with GPS coordinates, which were provided on 12/1/2022 as follows: NW corner of Phase I affected area: 39° 1'2.21"N, 104°20'57.28"W; SW corner of Phase I affected area: 39° 0'52.33"N, 104°20'57.40"W.

Permit Stipulations: There are no permit stipulations.

Storm Water MGT Plan: No oil or fuel spills observed. Stormwater drains to the pit and infiltrates. It should be noted the reclamation plan specifies a one percent positive drainage to the south for final reclamation.

Topsoil: The topsoil stockpile is in the west side of the pit and is stabilized with established grass (see **Photo 7**).

Post Inspection Meeting: No problems were cited and no requests were made from the Permittee.

Please contact Tim Cazier (303)328-5229 or email at [tim.cazier@state.co.us](mailto:tim.cazier@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. East and west highwalls (looking SSW), stripped and product stockpile area on left.



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. West highwall (looking west across pit; note topsoil stockpile on crest).



Photo 3. Loader on east side, south of clay stockpile (looking north; note berm marking boundary on right).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Permit sign at entrance off Fairplay Rd (looking east).



Photo 5. Typical east affected boundary corner post (SE corner).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 6. North affected area boundary berm (looking east).



Photo 7. Vegetated topsoil stockpile (left side of photo, west side, looking south).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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ec: DRMS file  
Julie Welte, The Summit Pressed Brick and Tile Company