




**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> Virginia Acres	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1990-021	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Mesa
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Cloudy	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> March 29, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Jason Burkey	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$30,000.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> DRMS	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Amy Yeldell	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 3, 2023	

**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>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>NA</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>NA</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>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>NA</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</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 Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The purpose of this inspection was to determine if site conditions were eligible for reclamation release or if additional work may be necessary. Jason Burkey and Tyra Bartuska represented Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is the landowner, however no representative was present. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection.

Virginia Acres is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 3.37 acres. It is located in Mesa County within the city limits of Grand Junction at the intersection of 30 Rd and C ½ Road. This site has a required surety of \$6,790.00. The Division currently holds \$30,000 in bond, which is the amount prior to the approval of SR-1 (2019). The post-mining land use for this pit is recreation.

The site was inactive and in final reclamation at the time of the inspection. Mining concluded around 2000. No equipment, structures or mining related debris are on site. Since beginning final reclamation the operator has revised the seed mix and completed numerous reclamation efforts without site wide success. In 2018, the area around the lake, 14.33 acres, was released. The remaining permit area is the northern flat area which has struggled to establish sustainable, diverse and desirable vegetation. The primary desirable species is rabbit brush, which occupies approximately 20% of the disturbed lands. Bare ground makes up approximately 30% of cover. And the remaining cover some plants have begun to germinate, however it is too early in the season to identify the species and to determine if it is weeds or desirable species.

The Division has reviewed the reclamation cost estimate and the current seed mix. The Current bond is sufficient. The upland seed mix used on this site could be better adapted for arid and alkali sites. If this current growing season proves poor the Division would suggest revising the seed mix to something more robust, site specific and better suited for the poor soils and high seasonal variability.

There has also been internal discussions about incorporating other recreational features such as additional parking or paths at this site. The Division encourages collaboration between CPW and the Operator to improve reclamation success. Any changes to the reclamation plan, need to be submitted as a technical revision prior to requesting release of the site.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave Denver, CO 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 303-866-3567 Ext 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

### **Inspection Contact Address**

Jason Burkey  
Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County  
2273 River Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81505

Enclosure

EC:  
Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

**PHOTOGRAPHS**





