



# 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> Pikeview Quarry	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-211	<b>MINERAL:</b> Limestone (general), granite, granite gneiss and dolomite	<b>COUNTY:</b> El Paso
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Partly Cloudy	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> May 10, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Riverbend Industries Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Jerry Schnabel	<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> \$13,389,784.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Timothy Cazier, P.E.	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> May 26, 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>N</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>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>NA</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>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</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 inspection was conducted by Tim Cazier (DRMS) as part of the continuing planned monthly inspections to observe the backfill placement for the final reclamation of the Pikeview Quarry. Jerry Schnabel (representing the Permittee, Riverbend Industries) and Paul Kos (Stantec) were present during the inspection. The Pikeview Quarry is accessed from near the intersection of Centennial Blvd. and Vindicator Dr. north of Colorado Springs. The quarry is actively focused on final reclamation. The purpose of this inspection was to observe backfill placement and compaction effort. This included reviewing compaction testing records.

**Records:** Compaction testing records were reviewed back to the previous inspection (April 13, 2023). All test results reviewed in this period (April 13<sup>th</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup>) demonstrated at least 90 percent compaction in compliance with the approved specification.

Site representatives presented the prism data from the previous month for the GEOMOS system (which tracks the slide area movement). The data continues to indicate the placement of backfill material has possibly halted movement of the slide as the trend of the graphed movement data has remained flat for several months.

The DRMS approved the succession of operator (SO) permit transfer to Riverbend Industries on April 27, 2023.

**Backfilling and Grading:** Final grading was near completion in former shop area (see **Photo 1**) with topsoil stockpiles on the upgradient side for spreading in the near future. Final grading was also near completion west of the quarry road and below the bench on which the GEOMOS system building sits (see **Photo 2**). Site representatives stated the buttress backfill had been placed to approximately elevation 7,340 feet (see **Photo 3**) and that roughly 63 percent of the necessary fill was in place at the time of the inspection. Material was being excavated for buttress placement in the private area of the north borrow area (see **Photo 4**) during the inspection. Some minor sloughing had occurred on the upgradient side of the south borrow area (see **Photo 5**). The area was expected to be stabilized as additional material is excavated and the borrow area is sloped back to final grades.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the DRMS received confirmation the USFS had approved the free use permit for excavating borrow material from the north and south borrow areas (on USFS managed land), and on May 26<sup>th</sup>, we received confirmation the USFS had approved the free use operating plan.

In anticipation of placing new monitoring prisms on the completed backfill, Riverbend has decided to use auger-based prisms (see **Photo 6**). These will be easier to place and remove (once no longer required) than prisms set in concrete. There is a short auger at the base of the support pipe that will allow the pipe to be screwed into the compacted buttress backfill at least two feet.

**Fish and Wildlife:** Bighorn sheep were observed in the reclaimed areas as usual.

**Revegetation:** The DRMS inquired as to whether any plant growth had emerged from the two seeded areas on the north end. Site representatives said it was very limited. Subsequent to the inspection, DRMS vegetation specialists indicated it was likely too early in the season to see emerging grasses from the seed mix. Evidence of successful seeding should be observable by mid to late June.

**Sediment Control:** As a result of the recent rains, some "under-topping" erosion, or sloughing occurred under prism NP2 resulting in the loss of that prism. The sloughing was confined the area above the buttress fill operation and no offsite impacts were observed.

Post Inspection Meeting: Mr. Schnabel stated the top-down grading above the slide area would likely begin in June. He also ensured the DRMS that safety would be re-emphasized to the equipment operators given the more challenging conditions. A discussion was held with respect to when the new auger prisms would be placed. Placing them prior to spreading topsoil would result in a slightly longer GEOMOS system monitoring duration, but might interfere with topsoil placement and grading. Site representatives decided to consult with the topsoil placement equipment operators to determine the potential extent of interference. Mr. Kos stated the calculations for the Technical Revision addressing the realignment of the stormwater drainage channels had been completed and the DRMS could expect the TR submittal by May 19<sup>th</sup>. The TR had not been received as of the signature date of this report.

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. Nearly final grade in former shop area – topsoil (circled) placed at crest (looking NW).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 2. Recently graded lower slope between haul road and lowest bench (looking west).



Photo 3. Placed and compacted buttress material (circled, looking south).



**PHOTOGRAPHS (cont.)**



Photo 4. Material excavation from north (private area) borrow area (looking NE from above the slide area).



Photo 5. New auger-based prism (auger at base, prism on top).

**Inspection Contact Address**

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