




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: Superior S&G Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1979-189	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Arapahoe
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	WEATHER: Cloudy	INSP. DATE: May 18, 2023	INSP. TIME: 09:00 a.m.
OPERATOR: City of Aurora	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Brian Green	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT: \$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Robin Reilly, GISP	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: June 2, 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>N</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>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>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>Y</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

OBSERVATIONS

This was a site inspection of the Superior S& G Pit, Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS) permit number M-1979189 operated by the City of Aurora (Aurora). The inspection was in response to a request for full bond release SL1 received by DRMS on 13 April 2023. The Division found the application complete on 24 April 2023. A decision by the Division is due 23 June 2023. Brian Green with the City of Aurora accompanied me on the inspection. The site is located ¼ mile north of State Highway 30.

The site was previously inspected by the Division in August 2019 as part of the Division's routine monitoring program. This is a 65.2 acre 112c operation in Arapahoe County. This site was originally permitted by Superior S & G Company. The permit was transferred to Rio Grande Company in 2004. Then in 2015 the permit was transferred to Aurora. In September of 2017 the operator decided to complete reclamation. The post mine land use approved for the site is primarily recreational centered on wetland/wildlife habitat creation.

A Reclamation Plan for the site, meeting the requirements of Rule 3.1.5(7) has been developed by the City of Aurora and approved by DRMS. In addition to meeting the requirements of the above Rule it was agreed in 2019 to leave certain areas steeper than 3H:1V ratio and to retain the well-established Cottonwood trees along the banks. The Division concurred with this approach. Also discussed was that some of Aurora's proposed revisions will be conceptual in nature and final configurations of features (wildlife viewing platforms) may not be exact. DRMS understands this and as long as the final site configuration is not significantly different than proposed, small variations are acceptable.

As Eagles were nesting, the inspection comprised a partial site inspection avoiding the buffer around the nesting site. The areas east of the buffer were visited. The eagle was seen roosting on a treetop. Pelicans, avocet and other waterfowl were observed at the time of inspection. Vegetation is establishing on the east end of the Ponds with lupines and legumes blooming and native grasses emerging. Slopes are shallow exhibiting a 3H to 1H ration. Biodegradable erosion control blankets were present on most slopes along the pond banks and vegetation was beginning to emerge through the blankets, although vegetation appeared sparse. Warm season grasses had not yet emerged.

An overburden stockpile located at the north east corner of the site had been gently sloped, vegetated and contained with a silt fence. The pile will remain as a permanent pile as is. The pile appeared stable with adequate cover. The portion of the site visited appeared stable and reclamation appeared to follow the reclamation plan with diverse native and wetland vegetation beginning to establish.

Because this was a partial site inspection for a surety release, DRMS advises withdrawing the surety release request and resubmitting in the near future; August or so when vegetation is coming through the erosion control fabric and a full inspection of the site can be undertaken. A resubmission would comprise the same documents previously submitted.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached.

Please contact Robin Reilley (303)866-3567 ext. 8105 or email at robin.reilley@state.co.us with any questions regarding this report.

Inspection Contact Address

Brian Green
City of Aurora
15151 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO 80012

Enclosure:
cc: Jared Ebert, DRMS



Photo 1: Overburden pile that will remain, looking west.



Photo 2. Looking south to eastern section ponds. Banks are blanketed and seeded.



Photo 3: Looking se at ponds



Photo 4: Looking down a low ridge between dewatering ditch and ponds.



Photo 5: *Example of the erosion/ vegetation blankets and the slopes along the ponds.*



Photo 6: *looking west*