



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

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## Sievers Pit, May 24, 2023 Inspection Report

1 message

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**Wein - DNR, Clayton** <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

Wed, Jun 21, 2023 at 2:08 PM

To: "Bartuska, Tyra L (United Companies)" <tyra.bartuska@unitedco.com>, "Burkey, Jason K (CRH Americas Materials)" <jason.burkey@na.crh.com>

Good afternoon Jason and Tyra,

Attached is the Division's report for the routine monitoring inspection conducted on May 24, 2023 at the Sievers Pit. A bond calculation is being conducted and will likely result in the need for a surety increase for the mine. The bond calculation will be sent to you in the near future. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Clayton Wein**

**Environmental Protection Specialist**



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567 x 8185 | F 303.832.8106  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203  
[clayton.wein@state.co.us](mailto:clayton.wein@state.co.us) | <https://www.drms.colorado.gov>




**Sievers Pit, M-1977-098, May 2023 Inspection Report\_CCW.pdf**

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**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> Sievers Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-098	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Garfield
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> May 24, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 12:40
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Compas County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Tyra Bartuska	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b>	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$794,357.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> County	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> County	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Clayton Wein Amy Yeldell	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> June 21, 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>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</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>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>Y</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 report documents the observations taken by the Division during a routine monitoring inspection of the Sievers Pit. The inspection was conducted on May 24, 2023. Clayton Wein and Amy Yeldell conducted the inspection. The operator, United Companies, was represented during the inspection by Tyra Bartuska. The inspection party was joined by Sarah LaRose of Garfield County. The representative from Garfield County wanted to join the Division for an inspection to see how the Division incorporates and inspects sites for weed management. The weather was clear with a temperature of 70 degrees F. The ground conditions were dry.

The mine identification sign was posted at the entrance to the mine site in accordance with Rule 3.1.12. The sign was in good condition and posted in an easily viewed area. Throughout the inspection of the mine site, permit boundary markers were observed to be in place. The T-posts used clearly marked the permitted boundary.

During the inspection mining activity was occurring in the southwestern portion of the site (Photo 1). The mining highwall was observed to be stable. The highwall was approximately 1,500 feet in length at the time of the inspection. The highwall was within the permitted boundary and no off-site impacts were observed. The mining plan is to finish mining the highwall to the south end of the permitted area and then move the mining operations to the eastern portion of the site. Material mined from the highwall was being processed through the crusher and sorted into material stockpiles. Several stockpiles were located throughout the floor of the mine pit (Photo 2). The stockpiles were well kept and organized. The plant at the bottom of the pit was active (Photo 3). Fuel stored at the site was located within secondary containment structures (Photo 4). There were no indications of spilled fluids or contaminated soils.

Western portions of the mine site are reclaimed in conjunction with mining activity as it progresses to the south. The reclamation was stable with vegetative cover. There were no indications of erosional features or off-site impacts. The western reclamation serves as a visual berm for the pit.

Stockpiled topsoil was stable with vegetative cover (Photo 5). There were no erosional features or loss of topsoil resource observed.

During the inspection the eastern berm and western berm were vegetated and stable (Photos 6 and 7). Minimal amounts of weeds were identified. Hounds Tong and Scotch Thistle have been sprayed for at the site in previous seasons. Weed control has been implemented at the site in accordance with the mining permit. There were no concerns identified. The Division recommends continuing to follow the approved weed control plan.

The Division currently holds a bond of \$794,357.00 for the Sievers Pit. The bond was last calculated in April of 2021. The Division is currently calculating an updated reclamation cost estimate, which will be sent to the operator under a separate letter.

Questions or responses to this inspection report should be directed to Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety Grand Junction Field Office, located at 101 south 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Room 301, Grand Junction Colorado 81501. Or by phone at (303)-866-3567.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photo 1: A portion of the highwall and stockpiled materials.



Photo 2: Some of the material stockpiles on the pit floor.

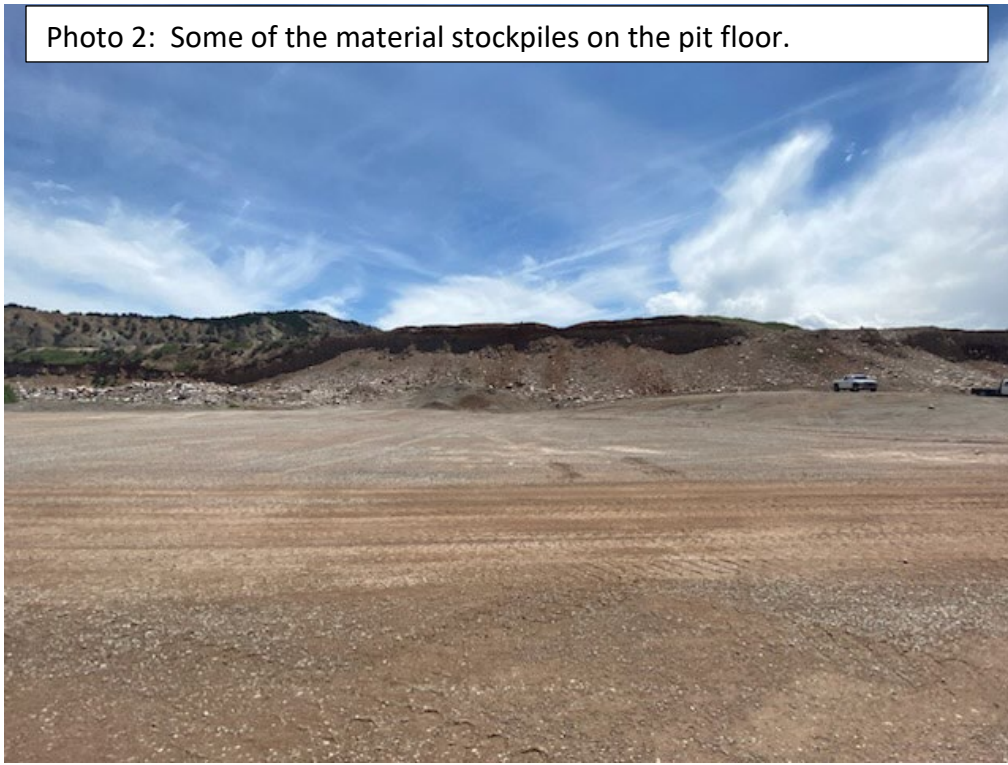




Photo 3: The plant located on the pit floor.

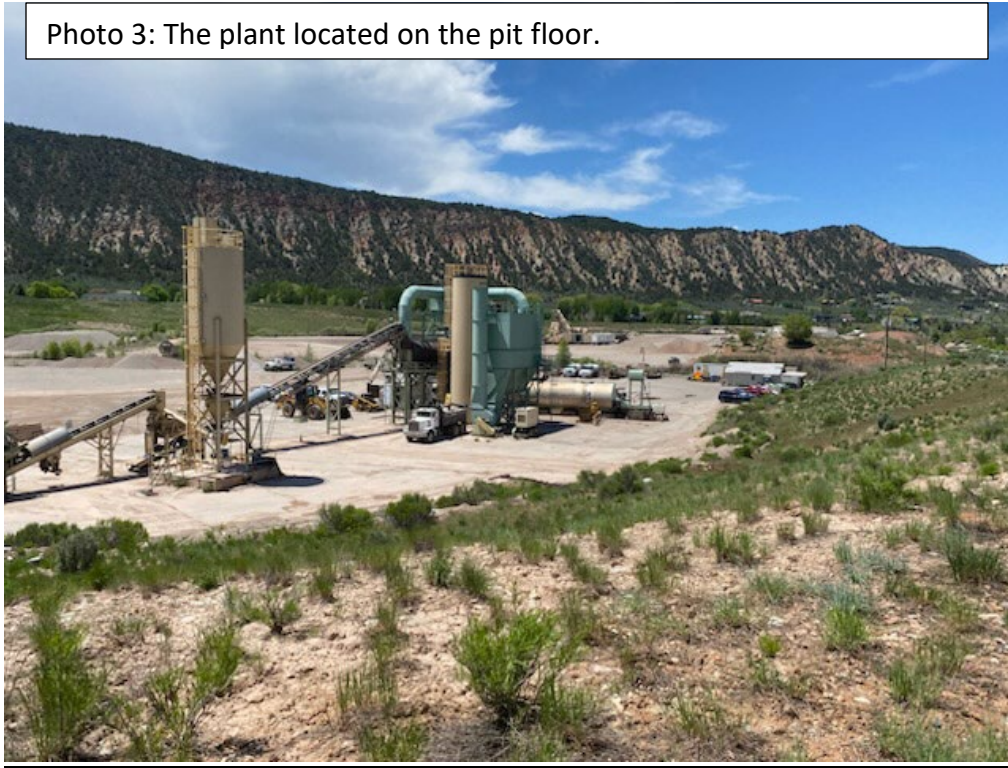


Photo 4: The fuel storage with secondary containment.



Photo 5: One of the topsoil stockpiles located on the western portion of the mine site.

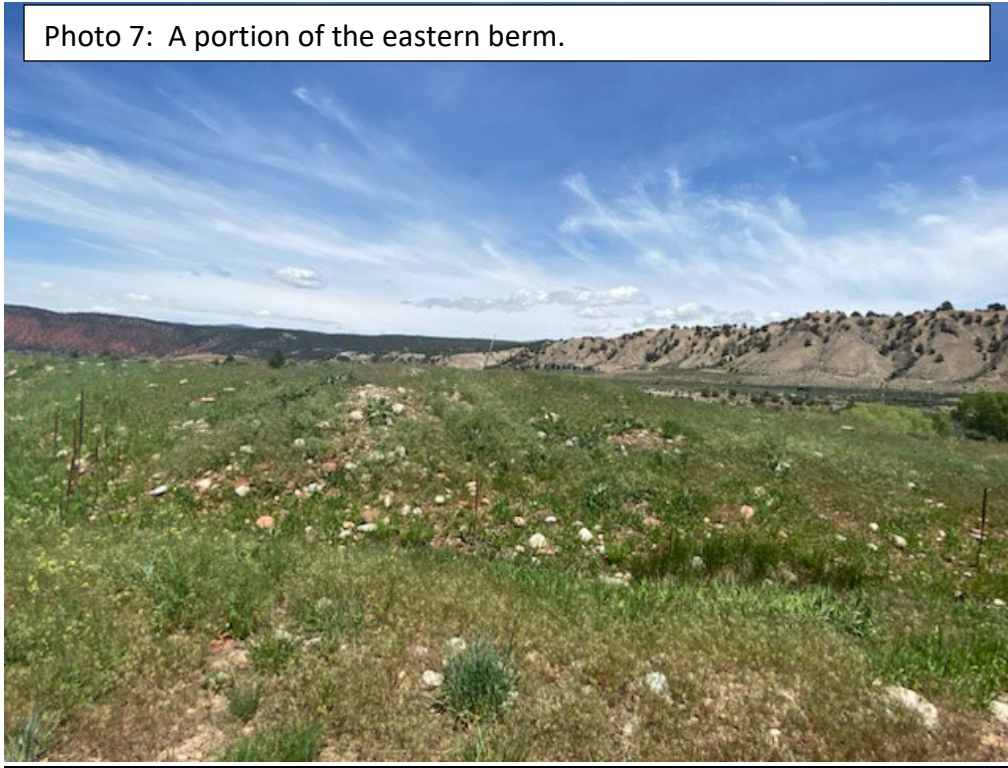


Photo 6: A southern portion of the permit area visited during the inspection. There were no indications of weed infestation.





Photo 7: A portion of the eastern berm.



**Inspection Contact Address**

Tyra Bartuska  
Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County  
2273 River Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Enclosure

CC: Travis Marshall, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist  
Sarah LaRose, Garfield County Weed Manager