



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

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## Corrective Action Due, Gardner Pit, M-1979-034

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Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 1:44 PM

To: Dan <generaloperatingco@hotmail.com>

Dan Redmond,

A problem citation was issued for the Gardner Gravel Pit (M-1979-034) in the inspection report dated March 31, 2023. A corrective action due date was set for June 10, 2023. This date has passed and the corrective action is now overdue. Please see attached the Division's letter in response to this.

Kind regards,  
Hunter Ridley  
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

P 720.868.7757 | F 303.832.8106

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

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

June 22, 2023

Dan Redmond  
P.O. Box 223  
Yampa, CO  
80483

**RE: Gardner Gravel Pit, Permit No. M-1979-034, Unresolved Problem(s) Noted in a Past Inspection Report**

Dan Redmond,

According to records kept by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, a problem noted in a past mine site inspection report has not been corrected. If the problem has already been corrected, documentation of the corrective actions taken to correct the problem must be submitted to our office.

Please see the enclosed inspection report for the above noted mine site, issued as a result of a past inspection of this site. Problems noted in this report that remain unresolved according to our records, have been highlighted.

To avoid potential future enforcement actions for non-compliance with State Statutes, Rules and Regulations, and/or conditions specified in your permit for this site, you must submit compliance documentation with the corrective actions by July 7, 2023

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at [hunter.ridley@state.co.us](mailto:hunter.ridley@state.co.us) or by phone at (720)868-7757.

Sincerely,  
Hunter C. Ridley

Environmental Protection Specialist


CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS





**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> Gardner Gravel Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1979-034	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Routt
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Snowing	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> March 31, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 09:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> General Operating Company	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Zach Gomez	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Partial	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$130,932.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Hunter Ridley Michael Cunningham	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> April 11, 2023	

**The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.**

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs & Markers

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: The mine identification sign posted at the entrance of the mine site was inadequate. This is a problem for failure to post an adequate mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 6/10/23

### 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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</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>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 as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety normal monitoring program. Gardener Gravel Pit is a 112c permitted site that includes a total of 40 permitted acres. It is located approximately 4 miles northeast of Phippsburg, CO and is accessed from Routt County Road 14. Zach Gomez represented Dan Redmond of General Operating Company and accompanied Hunter Ridley and Michael Cunningham of the Division on the inspection. Upon scheduling of the inspection, the Division was directed to reach out to Dan Redmond at 'generaloperatingco@hotmail.com' to schedule the inspection. The Division's records currently list a different email for Dan Redmond. **Please update this information through the permit's e-permitting account to ensure proper contact is made for future inspections.**

There is a mine identification sign posted at the bottom of the access road to the pit (Photo 1). This sign is not currently in compliance with our regulations under Rule 3.1.12. Therefore, the Division is citing a problem for failure to fully comply with the requirements under Rule 3.1.12. Corrective action will require submitting evidence to the Division that an appropriately amended sign has been posted.

A wire fence delineates the permit boundary. At the entrance of the pit there is a small office/ shop and load scale (Photo 2). Two fuel tanks are stored in a secondary containment (Photo 3). The operator representative stated they are required to dig out this secondary containment feature during the snowy months.

Currently the pit is in 3 sections. Two flat levels for processing and storing material (Photo 5), then the excavated hillside to the north. Material is pushed off of the hillside and collected below via a road running

northwest along the toe of the hillside (Photo 6 and 7). A shaker plant is on site to process material. All stockpiles are stable (Photo 4). No new material was being processed while the inspector was on site.

Unexpected weather conditions prohibited access to most of the site and did not allow the Division to inspect the site properly. Thus, a follow-up inspection will be conducted later in the year. Additionally, Mr. Gomez informed the Division that topsoil is stockpiled along the access road. However, only a portion of this access road is included in the permit boundary. Checking on the location of these topsoil piles will be part of the follow-up inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Hunter Ridley at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 720-868-7757 or via email at [hunter.ridley@state.co.us](mailto:hunter.ridley@state.co.us).

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: Mine sign at the entrance to the site.



Photo 2: Scale and scale house located on the entry road to the site.





Photo 3: Fuel is stored in secondary containment.



Photo 4: View North of the operation. The excavated hillside is visible from behind the foreground stockpile.



Photo 5: View northeast of the road leading to the processing area of the operation.



Photo 6: View north of the excavated hillside and haul road from the upper processing portion of the pit.





Photo 7: View north of the excavated hillside from the upper processing portion of the pit.

**Inspection Contact Address**

Dan Redmond  
General Operating Company  
P.O. Box 223  
Yampa, CO 80483

CC: Michael Cunningham, DRMS