



STATE OF
COLORADO

Michels - DNR, Amber <amber.michels@state.co.us>

M-1997-081 Everhart Pit

1 message

Jimenez-Garcia, Dominga <jimenezdo@pueblocounty.us>

Thu, Jul 13, 2023 at 12:16 PM

To: "amber.michels@state.co.us" <amber.michels@state.co.us>

Cc: "Bak, Paul" <bakpk@pueblocounty.us>, "Samuelson, Scott" <samuels@pueblocounty.us>, "George, Gregory" <georgeg@pueblocounty.us>, "Manseau, Tanis" <manseaut@pueblocounty.us>

Amber: Please find attached our response to the corrective action items you outlined in your inspection of Everhart Pit.

If you have any questions or need to discuss the items with me, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



Dominga Jimenez-Garcia

Engineering Supervisor

Department of Engineering and Public Works

33601 United Avenue

Pueblo, CO 81001

719-583-4723 (office)

719-583-6040 (main)

jimenezdo@pueblocounty.us

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 6:30am-5:00pm

4 attachments

EXHIBIT 1.pdf
121K

Exhibit 2 letter and photos.pdf
1046K



Exhibit 3.pdf

1432K



Letter_Everhart_Pit.pdf

216K



PUEBLO COUNTY

C O L O R A D O

Engineering and Public Works Department

Tanis A. Manseau
Director

July 13, 2023

Amber Michels
Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources
Room 215
1001 E 62nd Avenue
Denver, CO 80216

RE: M-1997-081 Everhart Pit

Dear Ms. Amber Michels:

We received your inspection report on June 20, 2023, and have been working on the corrective items you have outlined in said report. We have made progress toward making corrections and would like to address each item below with our comments shown in blue after each corrective action required and due by July 16, 2023.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator shall provide photo documentation to the Division verifying erosion gullies and ruts have been repaired, and that the site has have been reconstructed and stabilized to prevent erosion damage by the corrective action date.

We have been diligently working to make the repairs noted above. Due to the many rainstorms, our work is continually being washed away. Please see attached Exhibit 1 that depicts our attempts at again trying to fill in the gullies and ruts after a rainstorm. The storms have washed away many of our roads and our Road and Bridge team has been trying to make repairs due to public safety. Due to our team devoting their time on repairing our roads that are closed we have been limited to the number of team members that can work at the site. We respectfully request an extension of 30 days due to the prediction of rainstorms this weekend and to allow the site to dry out before we attempt to repair the erosion gullies and ruts.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Please provide the Division with evidence that the Operator has taken measures to establish vegetative cover on this south-facing slope to stabilize the buffer zone pursuant to Rule 3.1.6(3) by the corrective action date.

Our Noxious Weed Coordinator conducted a site visit and has prepared a plan for vegetative cover at the site, more specifically the south-facing slope to stabilize the buffer zone. I have attached his letter as Exhibit 2.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved mine plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

After discussion with the site supervisor, it was determined that we did not intend to mine deeper than what was in the mine plan. The pit depth will be brought back to a depth of 15 feet by filling in the pit. Our team has been working on this but due to the rainstorms in the area has not been able to complete this. We respectfully request an extension of 30 days due to the prediction of rainstorms this weekend and to allow the site to dry out before we attempt to continue work on the pit depth.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator shall conduct a survey and replace the boundary markers in the correct location(s). The Operator shall provide proof to the Division that this has been done by the corrective action date.

Our surveyor for Roads and Bridges visited the site and set the 150-foot buffer and the mine area boundary. See attached Exhibit 3. The mine area contains approximately 10 acres and will be depicted on next year's annual report map.

Please review the information we have submitted and our request for an extension on the items we have been unable to complete. If the information or action, we have taken is unsatisfactory please contact me at 719-583-4723 or via email at jimenezdo@pueblocounty.us.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Dominga Jimenez-Garcia
Engineering Supervisor

Attachments: Exhibit 1, 2 and 3

EXHIBIT 1



This area was repaired but washed out after last weekend's rainstorm.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023



PUEBLO COUNTY

C O L O R A D O

Engineering and Public Works Department

Tanis A. Manseau

Director

To whom it may concern,
The Re-Vegetation of impacted area has commenced. The first step towards corrective action will be to use stockpiled overburden (topsoil) over the face of the effected area. The soil will be at least 6 inches deep. The reason for this is to provide the best growing conditions and nutrients to encourage germination. Also, topsoil this deep also provides better bonding to subsoil. After this is complete, we will use a seed blend of side oats grama, switchgrass, little bluestem, blue grama and sand dropseed. These are native species and should thrive in this environment. We plan to Hydro mulch this area and schedule a water truck to water the seed to encourage germination. If you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out and give us a call.

Thank You,

Donovan Shepard
Noxious Weed Coordinator
(719) 583-4726

Kelly Bak
Deputy Director Road and Bridge
(719) 583-6040

EXHIBIT 2
PAGE 2



Existing vegetation looking south at south boundary line.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023

EXHIBIT 2
PAGE 3



Existing vegetation looking northeast from the southeast corner.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023

EXHIBIT 3
PAGE 1



Northeasterly corner of the mine area set with a t-post.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023

EXHIBIT 3
PAGE 2



North center of the mine area also being the 150-foot buffer set with a t-post.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023

EXHIBIT 3
PAGE 3



Southeast corner of the mine area set with a 5/8" rebar 16" long.

Photograph taken by:
Dan Hanten on July 11, 2023