



STATE OF
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

DRMS inspection report

1 message

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Mon, Jul 24, 2023 at 2:16 PM

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

Hello, All.

Please see the attached report from my inspection last week. Let me know if you have any questions. I will be in the field most of the day Wednesday, and then out all next week.

Thanks again for your time, Jesse.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

I am working remotely and can be reached by cell at 720.601.2276.

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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.

MINE NAME: Anderson Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2005-021	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Delta
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 18, 2023	INSP. TIME: 10:40
OPERATOR: Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Compas County	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jesse Farmer	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$230,100.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None
INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: July 24, 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: Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: The current mine plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-112 (1)(c)(VI). The mining plan, including Map C-2 and Exhibit D, is not in agreement with the on-site conditions. In particular, the map needs to reflect the actual size of mining phases, and it needs to accurately represent the settling ponds.

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

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/22/23

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 4/26/24

OBSERVATIONS

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division's) normal monitoring program. Jesse Farmer, representing the Operator (United Companies of Mesa County), was present during this inspection. Photographs are included with this report to illustrate some of the conditions observed.

The Anderson Pit is located approximately two miles northeast of Delta and accessed from Hwy 92 via 1800 Road. The site is a 112c operation that includes a total of 244.62 permitted acres. All but 17.6 acres are approved for disturbance, with the exceptions being a buffer around most of the site, including a 100-foot buffer on the north side (by Hutchins property). The site has a phased reclamation plan: Exhibit E indicates that Phase 2 will be reclaimed while Phase 3 is mined, Phase 3 will be reclaimed while Phase 4 is mined, etc.

The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$230,100.00 for this site. The reclamation cost estimate was last updated by the Division in 2013. Related to this inspection, the Division has not yet reviewed the reclamation costs in detail, since revisions to the Mining Plan are needed.

OBSERVATIONS

An adequate mine identification sign was clearly visible at the entrance to the site. The affected area was marked by fencing and landmarks that were clearly visible and adequate to delineate the affected area boundary.

Irrigation ditches were seen on both sides of the 1800 Road, near the southeast corner of the permit

boundary. Also, there is a ditch that runs through the center of the site. These need to be shown on Map C-2. Also, structure agreements for these ditches need to be obtained if not already in place.

Pit excavation is completed in what is approximately the Phase 1 area. This area is approximately 12 feet below grade, as measured with a laser rangefinder (distance meter). Several piles of product were seen in this area, as well as piles of asphalt and concrete for recycling.

In what is generally the Phase 2 area, the pit contains a couple feet of water (approximately) and the bottom of the pit is approximately 20 feet below grade.

It appears that the operator is not following the Mining Plan. The plan in Map C-2 contains 11 phases and a processing area on the south side, next to the entrance to the site. On this map, Phases 1 – 4 are the northern third of the site, however, the actual mining has progressed to encompass the entire northwest corner of the site. A Technical Revision is required to update Map C-2 and the text (Exhibits D and E) for this permit to show the revised plan. Also, it is advised that the operator revise the mining plan with the current plan for depth of excavation, if this has changed.

On the area that is approximately Phase 3 on Map C-2, the operator has begun to scrape topsoil off the top and dig a drainage ditch on the edge.

Dewatering trenches exist around the site, and a sump and two settling ponds have been constructed along the west side of the pit. The sump and ponds appear to be functioning to reduce loading of sediment offsite. Cattails and birds were seen at the northern pond. The discharge water was very clear entering the discharge pipe. Only one pond is shown on Map C-2 for the site, and a Technical Revision will be required to update the text (Exhibit D) and Map C-2 to better describe these structures.

The berms around the pit area appear to be functioning well and preventing off-site impacts. The large trees in the buffer beside the Hutchins property (near northwest corner of site) appeared to be very healthy and include ponderosa pines and cottonwood.

At the north end of the site, a large overburden pile was in place. On the west side of the site, a large topsoil stockpile was in place. The operator should vegetate the topsoil stockpile to limit wind and rain erosion, thus preserving this soil for reclamation.

Weeds were seen around the site and need to be addressed. These include tamarisk, Russian olive, knapweed (near the irrigation ditch that runs through the middle of the site), and Canada thistle (at the northern settling pond).

The Ready Mix plant (near the entrance) was not operating during this inspection. Also, the wash plant was not operating during the inspection. Fuel tanks that were observed were inside secondary containment structures.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Rob Zuber at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, via email at rob.zuber@state.co.us or by phone (720.601.2276).

PHOTOGRAPHS



Berm on west side of site, looking toward northwest corner



Phase 1 area from northwest corner of pit



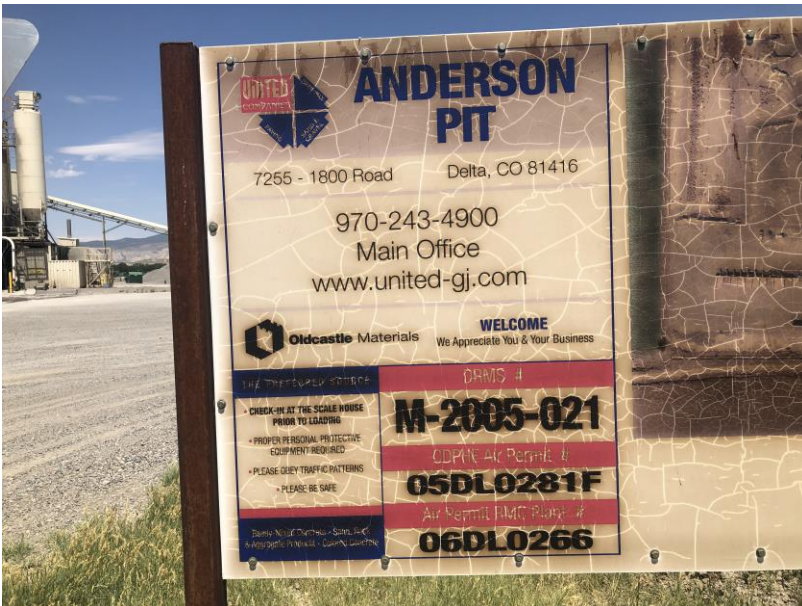
Newly disturbed area (approximately Phase 3)



Looking southwest from northeast corner of pit



Looking north from southeast corner of large settling pond



Entrance sign

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(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>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</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>PB</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>PB</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>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</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

Inspection Contact Address

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