




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: Urie Gravel Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2009-038	MINERAL: Gravel	COUNTY: Rio Blanco
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: July 24, 2023	INSP. TIME: 11:15
OPERATOR: Urie Rock Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Elaine Urie	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$91,600.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: DRMS	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Amy Yeldell	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: August 1, 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>NA</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 was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. The Urie Gravel Pit is a 112c permitted site that consists of 30.48 acres. The site is located in Rio Blanco County one and half miles northwest of Rangely, Colorado. The site is accessed from Rio Blanco County Road 46. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection. Elaine Urie represented Urie Rock Company, the Operator.

Availability Of Records:

The 2023 Annual Report, Map and Fee are due by August 21, 2023.

Acid And Toxic Materials:

No fuel or other hazardous materials are stored at this site.

Backfilling and Grading:

Phase 1 is completely graded and all slopes are a 3H: 1V or less. A berm separates Phase 1 and 2 (Photo One).

Phase 2 has been partially graded. The eastern half of the north and south slopes and the east slope adjacent to Phase 1 have all been graded to a 3H: 1V or less (Photo Two). A portion (400 LF) of the northwest slope is at approximately 1H: 1V and 20 feet deep. The west and southwest slope of phase 2 adjacent to the stockpile area is at a 2H:1V and estimated to be 500 LF (Photo Three).

No highwalls or grading is required in Phase 3 or the southern stockpile area.

Explosives:

Explosives area not used in conjunction with this mining operation.

Financial Warranty:

The Division currently requires a financial warranty amount of \$91,600 for this site. In an effort to ensure the Financial Warranty adequately reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the approved reclamation plan the Division will be updating the reclamation cost estimate. If the current bond is found to be insufficient the Division will send a Notice of Surety Increase under a separate cover.

Fish and Wildlife:

Several pronghorn were observed utilizing the processing equipment for shade.

Hydrologic Balance:

Excavated pit areas are located below the water table. The Phase 1 pit is no longer being pumped and is now inundated. Phase 2 is being dewatered for mining. Water is anticipated to rise 10 feet without pumping. Some water was observed along the southeast corner of Phase 2 pit, otherwise the rest of the phase was nearly dry.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

The site was active at the time of the inspection. The site is approved for a maximum disturbance of 15 acres. Slopes while mining are to be at a 2H: 1V to a depth of approximately 18 feet. Only one mining phase is to be mined at a time. To date Phase 1 mining is complete. The southwest corner of Phase 2 is actively being excavated with mining progressing to the west then south (Photo Four). Phase 3 is being utilized for processing and stockpile storage (Photo Five). All stockpiles appear to be stable. Processing of material on site includes crushing and screening but no washing of material. The crusher is located within Phase 3.

Other:

As a reminder noted in the Divisions previous 3/2/2016 inspection. "The shale underlying the gravel deposited appeared to be Mancos shale. The Division requires either a minimum of two feet of gravel or water being left overlying the Mancos shale to avoid oxidation. Oxidation of Mancos shale may allow for selenium loading of the water which can be harmful to wildlife. The Operator was not advised of this potential during the application process due to the original application stating that the shale formation underlying the gravel deposit was the Green River formation. This is not seen as a problem at this time but now that the Operator is aware of the potential issue of Mancos shale oxidation future inspections that observe exposed Mancos shale will cite the condition as a possible violation of the Division policy."

A few small pieces of shale were observed in the pit bottom but overall the shale appeared to be covered by a gravel layer or water. Please continue to be diligent and ensure that sufficient cover remains in place to avoid oxidation.

Right of Entry:

Division staff verified that Stephen and Elaine Urie remains the landowner of all affected lands and therefore is in compliance with Rule 6.3.7 by maintaining its Legal Right of Entry.

Reclamation Success:

The site has a post mining land use of rangeland that includes a combination of a pond and revegetated upland area. Per the Reclamation Plan there will be one pond for a total water surface of 18 ac. If multiple ponds are to remain the Reclamation Plan Map must be revised to reflect current site conditions (as-built) prior to requesting a release. All areas not inundated more than 5 feet shall be revegetated. A minimum of 54 inches of overburden site wide and 6 inches of topsoil shall be replaced on all areas to be revegetated. To date no areas are eligible for release.

Revegetation:

The Phase 1 area has been revegetated. No other areas have been seeded to date. Areas adjacent to the water's edge appear to be riparian species with little to no noxious species aside from a few Russian Olive. Upland areas have little reclamation success and are primarily Kochia (noxious weed) with very little desirable species. The operator is encouraged to aggressively manage noxious weeds in reclaimed areas to avoid delays in reclamation success and permit release. Per the approved Reclamation Plan "The area will be deemed adequate when the vegetation has been established in order to control erosion and noxious weeds are not present in any significant amounts..."

Additionally irrigation has been used in the past for reclamation. The Division would advise against irrigation of reclaimed areas unless it will remain in place (and utilized) post reclamation. Irrigation will favor those more water dependent species, leading to increased die off when the water is turned off and overall reclamation failure. Per Rule 3.1.10 revegetation shall be diverse, effective and long-lasting cover that is sustainable without dependence on irrigation, soil amendments or fertilizer. Instead the operator should focus on preservation of topsoil while mining. Proper reclamation techniques which utilize an effective drought tolerant seed mix. And robust weed management during desirable species establishment.

Subsidence:

No subsidence was observed.

Support Facilities On-site:

Located within Phase 3 is the processing area. This includes the scale, office, and crusher plant. No other

buildings are located within the permit. All features are considered temporary.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign was posted at the entrance to the mine site as required by Rule 3.1.12(1) (Photo Six). The information depicted was correct/ up to date and the sign was of sufficient size. The permit boundary of the affected land was clearly delineated by t-posts with white PVC markers pursuant to Rule 3.1.12(2).

Topsoil:

Topsoil has been applied to all of Phase 1. A portion of the northern reclaimed sloped within Phase 2 has been topsoiled. It was unclear if topsoil has been stripped from Phase 3 prior to its use for processing material. Pursuant to Rule 3.1.9, all areas should be stripped of topsoil prior to being utilized. Any topsoil stored for more than 180 day should be stabilized (revegetated) until reapplication.

No problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Rm 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver Co 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 303-866-3567 Ext 8183 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

Inspection Contact Address

Elaine Urie
Urie Rock Company
2424 East Main Street
Rangely, CO 81646

Enclosure

CC:

Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS

PHOTOGRAPHS







Photo 5: Processing overview within Phase 3



Photo 6: Mine sign at entrance