

# 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: 2006/07 Geo-Hydro Drill & Core Prgm-	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: P-2006-037	MINERAL: Oil shale	COUNTY: Rio Blanco
Public-PRL's	1-2000-037	On shale	Kio Bianco
INSPECTION TYPE:	WEATHER:	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring	Clear	July 25, 2023	07:30
OPERATOR: Shell Frontier Oil & Gas Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Samantha Baker	TYPE OF OPERATION: MP - Mineral Prospecting	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$168,818.66	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGE U.S.BLM	NCY:
INSPECTOR(S): Amy Yeldell	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:  Amy Geldell	SIGNATURE DAT August 14, 2023	E:

### **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>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING $\underline{Y}$	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING NA	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES $\underline{NA}$	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>NA</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE $\underline{Y}$	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS NA	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN N	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE NA	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION $\underline{\mathbf{Y}}$	(ST) STIPULATIONS <u>N</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS NA	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE <u>NA</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. The 2006-07 Geo-Hydro Drill & Core Program- Public-PRL's is a Hard Rock NOI located in Rio Blanco County. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection. Samantha Baker, Dillon Berry and Dave Murray represented the Operator. James Roberts of the White River Field Office was also present.

The permitted NOI includes a total of 3.88 acres and has a required bond of \$18,711. In 2020 AR-1 and in 2021 SR-1 were approved to reflect progress towards the completion of final reclamation. The Division still holds \$168,818.66 in financial warranty for this site since a replacement bond has not been submitted following the approval of SR-1. Following the approval of AR-1 the following pads remain permitted; 71-8-298 and 77-11-299.

All hydrology wells have been plugged and abandoned, which includes cementing, cut and cap wells and backfill. Hydrology well pads have been reclaimed. The last reclamation efforts were completed in 2015 and now are awaiting adequate vegetation establishment. The past winter consisted of heavy snows with warmer than average temperatures. The early spring/summer was very cold and plant germination was slow up till mid-June when temperature's skyrocketed into the high 90's with little to no moisture. Late June a few storms have begun but the summer monsoons have not truly started. Wild horse populations have continued to be a nuisance despite the round up last year. Vegetation throughout much of the Piceance Basin is showing signs of overgrazing. Over all pads are stable with no signs of erosion. All mining related debris has been removed from the site(s).

Pad 71-8-298: The predominant cover type remains to be Rabbit brush which seems to be only minimally affected by grazing. Some desirable understory (grasses) are present but have been grazed. Weeds are much better this year, continue to monitor and treat weeds. Likely eligible for release next year if conditions continue to improve.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 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**

Samantha Baker Shell Frontier Oil & Gas Inc. 4487 County Road 233 Rifle, CO 81650

## EC:

Travis Marshall, Senior EPS, Grand Junction DRMS James Roberts, White River Field Office, BLM COC70849 Dave Murray, Consultant

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**



