




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: Pepper Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2011-034	MINERAL: Sand and borrow material construction	COUNTY: Rio Grande
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: August 8, 2023	INSP. TIME: 15:00
OPERATOR: Cooley & Sons Excavating, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: James Cooley	TYPE OF OPERATION: 110c - Construction Limited Impact	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$4,300.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Todd Jesse	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: August 31, 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>N</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>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING----- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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 report was conducted as part of the normal monitoring program established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's Active Mines Program. The Pepper Pit is a 110c Operation operated by Cooley Sons Excavating, Inc. The site is located approximately 6 miles southwest of Center, CO at an elevation of approximately 7720 feet. Public access is controlled by a gate off W Rd 11 N and the site consists of 9 acres to be reclaimed for the post mine land use of developed water resources. The previous inspection occurred in 2018 and the Division holds a \$4,300.00 financial warranty on the site. The last bond update occurred when the permit was issued in 2011. James Cooley, a representative of Cooley Sons Excavating Inc. was present for the inspection.

The proper mine identification signage was posted at the gate that controls entrance to the site. Permit boundaries marked with a berm of topsoil. The site was not active at the time of the inspection, but a screener was present. Through discussion with the operator it was discovered the screen is non-operational. There are no support facilities or hydrocarbons stored in the permit area. Equipment is brought to site when there is a need to load material or a need to mine and process more material.

Mining has been conducted according to the submitted plan within the permit boundary. The pit is being excavated near reclamation grade resulting in no high wall on site. The pit floor has only been mined down approximately 3 feet to date. In the mining area there are small stockpiles of unprocessed material. There is also a 2,000 cubic yard stockpile of 1 ½ inch material. Equipment is brought to the site to process and haul material when needed. No state listed invasive species were identified on site during the inspection. No water present in the pit.

In an effort to ensure the financial warranty remains adequate to reclaim this site per the requirements of the approved reclamation plan, DRMS will update the reclamation cost estimate. The estimate will be forwarded to the operator under separate cover.

Photos that show the conditions observed during the inspection are included at the end of this report.

No problems or violations were noted or observed during the August 8, 2023 inspection.

All responses to this report should be directed to Todd Jesse with the Division's Active Mines Program at DRMS, Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave. Denver, CO 80216. Direct contact can be made at the Division's Grand Junction Field Office, by phone at 720-688-0626 or by email at todd.jesse@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



View to the southeast of Mine ID sign at entrance to site.



View to the east of berm that marks permit boundary.



View to the south of Mine ID of southern edge of pit. Slopes are being mined at approximate reclamation grade.



View to the east of 1 1/2 inch product stockpile .



View to the southeast of Mine ID sign at entrance to site.



View to the southeast of Mine ID sign at entrance to site.

Inspection Contact Address

James Cooley
Cooley & Sons Excavating, Inc.
4469 CR 108
Mosca, CO 81146

Enclosure

CC: