




## 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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Boettcher Limestone Quarry	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1977-348	<b>MINERAL:</b> Limestone (general)	<b>COUNTY:</b> Larimer
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Surety Release Inspection	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> November 1, 2023	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Holcim (US) Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Mike Toelle	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Acreage Release Requested (AR5)	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> None	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$2,518,261.30	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Nikie Gagnon Amy Eschberger Jocelyn Carter	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> November 27, 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>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>N</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>N</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>N</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>N</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</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 was completed as part of an Acreage Release (AR5) request, submitted in accordance with Rule 4.17, received by the Division on September 20, 2023. Nikie Gagnon, Amy Eschberger, and Jocelyn Carter, representing the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) conducted the inspection. Mike Toelle, representing Holcim US Inc. (Operator), accompanied the Division during the inspection.

The Boettcher Limestone Quarry is a 112c operation currently permitted for 537 acres. The approved post-mining land use for the site is dry rangeland. Mining was conducted using a dragline to remove material in bands across the site. This method left a series of pits running north-south. Cement kiln dust (CKD) was generated on site and disposed of in pits within the quarry. Mining and plant operations ceased in 2002 and the site has been in reclamation since that time. The Operator is requesting the release of 52-acres on the south end of the permit area, outside the CKD disposal sites, leaving 485-acres in the permit boundary. No groundwater monitoring wells are within the proposed 52-acre release area. The CKD disposal sites and the water ponds will remain in the permit area.

### **Reclamation Success:**

The reclamation plan calls for grading the disturbed land to slope gradients of 2H:1H or flatter and placing up to 8 inches of topsoil and seeding with a native grass seed mixture. All reclamation grading, seeding and revegetation has been completed in the 52-acre release area. A stable vegetated berm runs along the access road and splits the east and west portions of the release area. Vegetation is well established across the area. The Division observed western wheatgrass, little bluestem, sideoats grama, and yellow Indiangrass, consistent with the approved seed mix in the reclamation plan. Shrubs (rabbitbrush) and some forbs were noted across the release area. The access road that runs through the permit area will remain after release.

As noted in the report for the previous inspection conducted on August 31, 2022, the Division recommends that the Operator submit another acreage reduction request to release the northern portion of the permit area, outside the CKD disposal area, with Ponds A and B3 since the Operator has obtained an augmentation plan for these two ponds and the area around the ponds has been reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan.

Based on observations made during this inspection the request for a release of 52-acres will be approved. Notice of the Division's decision regarding the release request will be sent under a separate cover letter.

This concludes the report. A subset of the photographs taken during inspection are attached. Please contact Nikie Gagnon (303)866-3567 ext. 8126 or email at [nikie.gagnon@state.co.us](mailto:nikie.gagnon@state.co.us) if you have any questions regarding this report.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: View looking northeast from the access road at the northeast portion of the release area.



Photo 2: View looking north across the eastern portion of the release area.





Photo 3: View looking northwest at the vegetated berm that splits the east and west portions of the release area.



Photo 4: View looking southwest at the vegetated berm from the access road on



the east side of the release area.



Photo 5: View looking north on the west side of the release area.



Photo 6: View looking south on the west side of the release area.





Figure 1: Google Earth image dated June 11, 2021. Blue boundary shows the proposed 52-acre release area AR-5.





Figure 2: Google Earth image dated June 11, 2021. The red boundary shows the 537-acre permit boundary. The yellow arrow points to the proposed 52-acre release area in AR-5. The blue arrow points to the northern portion of the permit area that could also be released if the Operator submits another acreage reduction request.

**Inspection Contact Address**

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