

STATE OF
COLORADO

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Inspection Report for Bollish Pit M-2007-013

1 message

Gagnon - DNR, Nikie <nikie.gagnon@state.co.us>

Fri, Mar 8, 2024 at 1:44 PM

To: "HARMS, Jeffery (SIMON - East CO)" <jharms@simonteam.com>

Hi Jeff.

Attached is the inspection report for the Bollish Pit (M-2007-013). Based on observations made during this inspection, the request for an acreage release of 40.32 acres will be approved. Notice of the Division's decision regarding the release request will be sent under a separate cover letter.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions about the report.

Kind regards,

Nikie Gagnon
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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INSP-REPORTM_M2007013_Bollish Pit SL1_Final Release.pdf
3291K



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: Bollish Pit #2	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2007-013	MINERAL: Sand, gravel and borrow material	COUNTY: Logan
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: February 13, 2024	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: McAtee Construction Company	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Jeff Harms	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Full/Final Surety Release Requested SL1	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$34,450.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Nikie Gagnon	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: March 8, 2024	

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>Y</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>Y</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 a full/final acreage release request, submitted in accordance with Rule 4.17, received by the Division on December 12, 2023. Nikie Gagnon with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) conducted the inspection. Jeff Harms of McAtee Construction (Operator) accompanied the Division. The Bollish Pit is located approximately 5.8 miles northwest of Sterling, CO. The mine is a dry open pit 112c operation permitted for 40.32 acres. The post mining land use is rangeland.

Reclamation Success

The mined area is a crescent shaped pit, approximately 15 acres in size. The permit was originally a 111 permit which was converted to a 112c in 2007. According to the operator the material was mined and trucked to a processing plant and the aggregate was used in the construction industry. The pit is graded flat, and the slopes are graded to 3H:1V or shallower. The reclamation plan calls for placing 6 inches of salvaged topsoil over the entire mined area for revegetation. According to the Operator, no additional topsoil was imported for reclamation. The disturbance area was drill seeded in the fall of 2021. Native grasses were observed established across the entire pit floor and on the slopes. The soil on site is a quick draining gravelly loam. Based on observations of the density of vegetation on the adjacent agricultural land, the density of vegetation in the former pit is consistent with an arid environment and capable of self-regeneration. The Division noted western wheatgrass, switchgrass, and little bluestem in the pit area.

During this inspection, the Division observed a small borrow area in the northeast corner of the reclaimed pit. This borrow area was approved in Technical Revision 2 for use by the landowner. The Division also observed a small storage area, approximately 10'x10', near the entrance to the pit. The Operator indicated the landowner was storing borrow material here to use on the property.

A dirt access road runs along the western boundary of the disturbance area. This road is approved to remain after reclamation.

Hydrology

The reclaimed pit was dry during this inspection. No evidence of depressional areas that would collect stormwater was observed in the pit floor. The North Sterling Inlet Canal which flows to the North Sterling Reservoir is located outside the western boundary of the permit area. The western embankment between the ditch and the mining boundary was observed to be stable and vegetated.

Signs and Markers

A mine sign is posted at the entrance and the permit boundaries are marked by a fence on the east side and t-posts in the corners on the north and west sides.

No comments were received on the release. Based on observations made during this inspection the request for an acreage release of 40.32 acres will be approved. Notice of the Division's decision regarding the release request will be sent under a separate cover letter.

A subset of the photographs taken during inspection are attached. Any questions or comments regarding this inspection report should be forwarded to Nikie Gagnon at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety via telephone at 303-866-3567, ext. 8126, or email at nikie.gagnon@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Looking southeast across the reclaimed pit. Slopes are graded and vegetated.



Photo 2: Looking northeast across the pit. Arrow indicates the borrow pit for use by the landowner approved in Technical Revision 2 in 2018.



Photo 3: Looking west towards the entrance to the pit.



Photo 4: Looking north across the revegetated pit area.



Photo 5: Close-up view of the vegetation on the pit floor.



Photo 6: Recent earthwork/tracks observed near the entrance during this inspection. The Operator indicated the landowner was storing material from the approved borrow area here for easy access.



Photo 7: Access road approved to remain after reclamation on the west side of the disturbance area.

Inspection Contact Address

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Sterling, CO 80751

CC: Amy Eschberger, Senior EPS, DRMS