




**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> Homm Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2015-049	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand, gravel & clay	<b>COUNTY:</b> Yuma
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear and Windy	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> April 24, 2024	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:00
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Yuma County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Tom Andersen	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> N/A County Government	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> N/A County Government	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Nikie Gagnon	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> June 7, 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>Y</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>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>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</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 conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division or DRMS) routine monitoring program for permitted operations. Nikie Gagnon, with the Division, conducted the inspection. Tom Andersen, representing Yuma County (Operator) accompanied the Division during the inspection.

The Homm Pit (formerly called the Meeks Pit) is located 8 miles south of the Town of Idalia on County Road 2. This site is a 112c operation permitted to affect 280 acres. At the time of the inspection, it was windy and warm, and the site was dry. Affected lands will be reclaimed to support a rangeland post-mining land use.

### **Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:**

The Homm Pit is an open pit mine utilized intermittently for sand, gravel and borrow material. The site was not active at the time of inspection and no equipment was on-site. The operator is currently mining Phase 1 of the mine plan. Five mining phases are proposed with each phase disturbing approximately 15 acres. Overburden is placed east of the excavation.

### **Stormwater Management**

The pit is a dry pit. The Republican River flows approximately 600 feet north of the entrance to the mine. Stormwater from the permit area flows north towards the river. The Operator installed sediment control straw wattles north of the pit to capture sediment and prevent runoff from leaving the active mining area. The Division observed several installed sediment control structures that are adequately collecting sediment. The Division recommends regular inspection and maintenance of the straw wattles. Additionally, the County should install a berm and additional straw wattles along a runoff channel that is developing in the northwestern corner of the pit to prevent runoff and sediment from flowing into the pasture within the permit area during rain events.

### **Signs and Markers:**

A mine sign was posted at the entrance to the site along CR2 in compliance with Rule 3.1.12(1). The permit boundary was delineated by t-posts.

### **Topsoil:**

The mine plan calls for stockpiling overburden and topsoil in a dike around the active mining area to stop stormwater from entering the mining area and flowing south. During this inspection, topsoil was observed stockpiled above the eastern highwall and the overburden was stockpiled above the southern highwall.

### **Reclamation**

The County has not started reclamation of the Phase 1 area. The reclamation plan calls for mining in 15-acre increments starting in the northeast corner and moving south. Concurrent mining and reclamation will occur. The finished highwalls will be sloped to 3H:1V. Once grading is complete, 5-8 inches of topsoil will be placed, and a mulch of hay or manure will be spread on the surface and worked into the soil. The site will be hydro or drill seeded with the approved mix of rangeland grasses.

A subset of the photographs taken during inspection are . 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: Looking west across the Phase 1 mining area.



Photo 2: Looking north across the Phase 1 mining area towards the entrance.





Photo 3: Overburden stored above the highwall on the south end of the Phase 1 mining area.



Photo 4: Straw bales installed adjacent to the access road north of the mining area to capture sediment and slow runoff into the pasture within the permit area.





Photo 4: Topsoil pile sitting above the eastern highwall in the Phase1 mining area.



Photo 5: Overburden stored above the southern highwall to prevent water from flowing down into the pit.





Photo 6: Vegetated channel above the Phase 1 mining area directing runoff around the pit.



Photo 7: Runoff channel developing in the northwestern corner of the pit area. The Operator should install a berm and straw bales in this area to prevent sediment from leaving the pit during rain events.





Photo 8: Looking south towards the mining area from the undisturbed area near the entrance.



Figure 1: Permit boundary marked by red outline. Google Earth imagery dated 12/16/2024.



**Inspection Contact Address**

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