

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:		MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:	MINERAL:	COUNTY:
Snyder Quarry		M-1977-210	Limestone (general)	El Paso
INSPECTION TYPE:		WEATHER: Raining	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Monitoring		-	July 17, 2024	11:15
OPERATOR:		OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
City of Colorado Springs		David Deitemeyer	112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION:		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:	
Normal I&E Program		None	\$0.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:	
NA		None	None	
INSPECTOR(S):	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE:	
Hunter Ridley			August 9, 2024	
	11 1 10 10			
	Huntoe Ridley			
	Thomas I was a series of			

The following inspection topics were identified as having Problems or Possible Violations. OPERATORS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT AND APPLICABLE RULES AND REGULATIONS. If a Possible Violation is indicated, you will be notified under separate cover as to when the Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider possible enforcement action.

**INSPECTION TOPIC:** Signs & Markers

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** Problem: An appropriate mine identification sign was not posted at the entrance of the mine site. This is a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. The Operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site post a sign, which shall be clearly visible from the access road, with a minimum size equaling one hundred and eighty-seven (187) square inches, such as eleven (11) inches in height and seventeen (17) inches in width, with appropriate font size, with the following: the name of the Operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall, at the entrance of the mine site, post a sign which shall be clearly visible from the access road with the following: the name of the operator, a statement that a reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board; and the permit number. The operator shall submit photo documentation that a proper sign has been posted by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 10/22/24** 

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection was conducted by Hunter Ridley with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) as part of the normal monitoring program. The Permittee (City of Colorado Springs) was represented by David Deitemeyer during the inspection. The Snyder Quarry is accessed from Black Canyon Rd and is located approximately 1 mile north of Manitou Springs. It was not operating at the time of the inspection and is in final reclamation.

<u>Availability of Records</u>: Annual reports are current, having been filed through May 2024, stating the last mining activity was January 31, 2021. The previous inspection was on November 3, 2022. The approved postmine land use is wildlife habitat. There are no open infractions. The site is owned by the City of Colorado Springs.

Backfilling and Grading: Both pits on site (Photos 3 and 7) are approved to be backfilled in final reclamation as discussed in Amendment 4 (AM-4). Several unreclaimed highwalls throughout the site will require scaling to reduce rockfall and increase safety (Photos 4 and 6). The approved plan allows for multiple highwall configurations. The northern most portion of the permit has slopes that will be regraded but will remain in the overall 'basin' or 'bowl' shape that it now mimics (Photo 9). The steeper slopes in this area will be regraded mainly with material pushed down from above (Photo 10). Some outcrops of the historical step and bench configuration will remain in final reclamation. Sufficient backfill material may or may not be available onsite for backfilling of the two pits and for general regrading of the rest of the site. Mr. Deitemeyer was informed that should any extra fill need to be imported to the site, a TR for an inert fill notice (Pursuant to Rule 3.1.5(9)) will need to be filed with the Division.

**Explosives:** Mr. Deitemeyer stated that no blasting is anticipated for final reclamation. If any, this would be minimal and occur on some of the southwestern benches. The site has filed an approved blasting plan (TR-1, July 24, 2001) with the Division. The current approved limits are as follows: a) the maximum peak particle velocity at the nearest structure is 1.0 inch/second for distances of 301 to 5000 feet (0.5 in/sec for historic structures); and b) the maximum peak airblast is limited to 133 dB, assuming the use of 2Hz microphones.

**Financial Warranty:** As the site is permitted by the City, no bond is required.

<u>Fish and Wildlife:</u> No impact to wildlife was observed. A small opening is located on the western side of the site in the historic highwall (Photo 4). Mr. Deitemeyer stated that CPW had discussed that this opening should possibly be left as-is in final reclamation for use as bat habitat.

<u>Hydrologic Balance</u>: No standing water was observed in the pit and no exposed groundwater was observed. The large storage pond to the east will be removed in final reclamation. Material will be regraded, riprapped, and redesigned to reestablish the low point of natural drainage in the area. This area drains to Williams Canyon and into two small sediment traps located along the access road. These traps will remain in final reclamation and be riprapped (Photo 11). All other stormwater from the site drains down into the access road to Black Canyon.

<u>Off-site Damage:</u> The operation appeared to be confined to the permit boundary, based on Google Earth review and site observations.

**Roads:** The main access road was observed to be in navigable condition. There is some sediment buildup in limited areas along the road ditch which could benefit from maintenance, especially when reclamation activity ramps up. Culverts along this road should also remain cleaned and maintained. Mr. Deitemeyer stated that the

City would like to pave and maintain the site's access road for final reclamation and after release. Amendment 4 (AM-4) in 1994 clarified that the access road is included in the permit boundary and approved to remain in final reclamation. However, should the City wish to update the status of this road to a paved and maintained road rather than a graveled road, a Technical Revision will need to be submitted to the Division to update the current Reclamation Plan. This will also help to satisfy the requirements of Permit Stipulation No. 4, discussed below.

**<u>Right of Entry:</u>** The City of Colorado Springs owns the site, verified from the El Paso County Assessor's website.

Reclamation Success: The City has not initiated any new reclamation since the permit was transferred from the previous Permittee in 2021. The highwalls west and north (Photo 5) of the north pit appeared to have been adequately reclaimed. The hillsides above the two pits to be backfilled were reclaimed before city took over permit (Photos 3 and 5). The office building located in the south will remain in final reclamation, as clarified under Technical Revision 3 (TR-3) (Photo 2).

**Revegetation:** There has been no new revegetation effort since the previous inspection. Knapweed continues to be a minor problem on site. The Division advises the City to implement the TR-2 approved weed control plan to upkeep with the presence of weeds. Topsoil piles to be used in final reclamation were observed onsite (Photo 8).

<u>Sediment Control:</u> No major erosion problems were observed and no BMPs were needed at the time of the inspection. Maintenance for the ditch along the site access road should be kept up with in the future, especially when reclamation work begins in full force.

<u>Signs and Markers:</u> The permit sign was properly posted (Photo 1), but the Permittee name needs to be changed from Continental Materials Corporation to Colorado Springs. This has been cited as a problem for failure to post a mine identification sign as required by Section 3.1.12(1) of the rule. Please provide the Division with proof of corrective action by the above given corrective action due date. Boundary markers in the form of white stakes delineate the permit boundary.

<u>Permit Stipulations:</u> As indicated in the previous inspection report, there are three remaining applicable stipulations:

- Stipulation No. 3: Permittee will perform all practices deemed necessary to control discharges and sediments when positive drainage is created by the removal of the outlet berm on the east side during final reclamation.
- Stipulation No. 4: Before release will be granted, the stability and final disposition of the access road will be addressed in accordance with all current applicable requirements.
- Stipulation No. 7: The operator shall establish a vegetation density value of 35 trees and 35 shrubs per acre within the Phase II affected area prior to financial warranty release (Revision Approval AM-03, recommitted to in AM-04).

# **Post Inspection Meeting:**

The following items were discussed:

- Continued implementation of TR-2 approved weed management plan as final reclamation work begins in earnest
- The need for a technical revision to update the status of the access road and for approval of inert fill importation.

Photographs taken during the inspection have been included below. Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Hunter Ridley at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 720-868-7757 or via email at hunter.ridley@state.co.us

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1:Mine sign at the access road entrance. Information is out of date.



Photo 2: View west of the currently abandoned office building to remain in final reclamation, located at the southern permit boundary.



Photo 3: View south into the western pit to be backfilled, previously reclaimed benches are visible to the west.



Photo 4: Opening to possibly be left for wildlife habitat.



Photo 5: View north of the previously reclaimed highwalls at the northern permit boundary.



Photo 6: Highwall to the east of Photo 7, still in need of reclamation.



Photo 7: View north into the second pit which will be backfilled in final reclamation.



Photo 8: View southeast of topsoil which will be used in final reclamation.



Photo 9: View east of the basin-shaped area in the northeast of the permit boundary, features in this area are yet to be fully reclaimed.



Photo 10: View west down into the northern most pit. Material from above will be pushed down to regrade slopes below.



Photo 11: View northeast of the sediment basins along the access road to remain in final reclamation.

### **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 <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES <u>Y</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING N	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES N	(TS) TOPSOIL <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- N	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE $\underline{Y}$	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS PB	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN N	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP Y
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE <u>N</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION $\underline{Y}$	(ST) STIPULATIONS $\underline{Y}$
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS N	(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

#### **Inspection Contact Address**

David Deitemeyer City of Colorado Springs 1401 Recreation Way Colorado Springs, CO 80905