




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: Patton Clay Mine	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1998-067	MINERAL: Clay (general)	COUNTY: Fremont
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: October 9, 2024	INSP. TIME: 10:30
OPERATOR: Summit Brick & Tile Co.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Julie Welte	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$29,500.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Jocelyn Carter	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: October 23, 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>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION-- <u>N</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</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

The inspection of the Patton Clay Mine, permit number M-1998-067, was completed by me, Jocelyn Carter, on behalf of the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division/DRMS) on October 9, 2024. Julie Welte, representing the Operator, Summit Brick & Tile Co., was present for the inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to assess the reclamation progress and record vegetation conditions prior to the new landowners starting a building project on the permit area. The weather at the time was clear with warm temperatures.

The Operator informed the Division in their annual report on January 10, 2024, that the portion of privately owned lands within the permit have been sold and there are new owners. Lands previously owned by Bradley Ranches LLC had been subdivided into three parcels and sold. The three new landowners and their property boundaries were provided in the annual map. On October 2, 2024, the Operator reached out to inform the Division that one of the landowners was planning to start building in the vicinity of Area F within the permit area.

The inspection was conducted to record and document the reclamation progress prior to any disturbances caused by the new landowners. Area F of the permit measures about 80 acres with approximately 15 acres having been affected by mining operations. The 15 acres that were affected by the operation was the only area that was considered during this inspection. There was no equipment on site, as reclamation operations at the site began in fall of 2021.

The area to the southeast of the pit boundary is approximately where the landowner plans to build. At the time of the inspection, there were two small piles of earth material, and a small area had been scrapped in preparation for the building project, see Photos #1, #5, and #8.

The Division feels that the reclamation success of Area F meets the post mine land use of rangeland and encourages the Operator to submit an acreage release request to the Division within 30 days of this inspection, and prior to any further disturbances to the land as a result of the landowner's building project(s).

Photos taken during this inspection are provided in this report. Any questions regarding this inspection report should be directed to me, Jocelyn Carter, at Jocelyn.carter@state.co.us or at (720) 666-1065.

Records

A review of the records was completed for this inspection. The post-mine land use for this permit is rangeland. The permit contains 80 acres that are privately owned, 60 acres of land owned by the State, and 160 acres of Federally owned lands. The Operator is up to date on annual fees, maps, and reports. The most recent updates made to Area F was with the approval of the technical revision (TR-1) application on May 3, 2019. In TR-1 the specific GPS points that outline the affected area of Area F were given and a weed management plan was provided and implemented. The last inspection of the site by DRMS was conducted on February 23, 2023.

Hydrological Balance

There was no impact observed to the hydrologic balance of the area.

Signs and Markers

The sign was not posted at the east gate entrance of the permit area and the majority of the affected area boundary markers that were placed as a result of TR-1 were also removed. According to Ms. Welte, the new property owners had removed the posted sign and the pit boundary markers. There were two markers that were

still in place, located on the northwest side of the drainage north of the affected area. The sign and markers are not considered an issue at this time because the Division is recommending that the Operator submit an acreage release request within 30 days of this inspection.

Backfill & Grading

The mined area has been back filled and graded to the proper slopes according to the approved reclamation plan. There did not appear to be any issues with the backfill and grading. According to Ms. Welte, the affected area was graded in November of 2021.

Erosion/Sedimentation

Areas of runoff into the drainage located to the north of the affected area appeared to be well vegetated leading to adequate slope stability and erosion control. There did not appear to be any sedimentation or erosion issues.

Roads

The roads are in good condition and will not be reclaimed per the approved reclamation plan.

Topsoil

The topsoil stockpile observed during past inspections appeared to have been used for reclamation operations. No additional topsoil was brought onto the site.

Revegetation

There did not appear to be any noxious weeds present during the inspection. There were areas of sparse vegetation, totaling approximately 0.5 acres; less than 5% of the total affected area. The state of the vegetation is good throughout the remaining affected area with a ground cover that is similar to that of the adjacent lands.

Reclamation Plan/ Compliance

The reclamation plan appeared to have been followed, backfilled slopes appeared to be 3H:1V or less and vegetation is re-established on the majority of the affected lands. According to Ms. Welte, the area was seeded in May 2022. The weed management plan approved by DRMS in TR-1 appears to have been effective given the lack of noxious weeds.

Stipulations

There is a stipulation associated with the permit associated with the TR-1 application: "Prior to conducting any mining in areas B, C, D, E, g, and H, the Operator will submit an updated mining plan map which clearly details the mining plans as per area A and F of the current Mine Plan Map."

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo #1: Looking northeast from the southwest portion of the reclaimed area. The small area in the immediate foreground is part of the portion that has been disturbed by the new landowners. The hill in the center of the photo is where the mining operation occurred.



Photo #2: Looking north from the southwest portion of the reclaimed area.



Photo #3: Looking northwest from the southeast portion of where the highwall used to be, the reclaimed slope of 3H:1V and established vegetation can be seen.



Photo #4: Looking southeast from the northwest portion of the base of where the highwall used to be; the reclaimed 3H:1V slope and established vegetation can be seen.



Photo #5: Looking southwest from the east side of the reclaimed area. In the foreground, a small area of relatively sparse vegetation can be seen. In the background, the two earth material piles and the small scrapping disturbance done by the landowner in preparation of a building project can be seen. The area of where the proposed building location is circled in the photo.



Photo #6: Looking west from the northeast portion of the reclaimed area, a small area of sparse vegetation can be seen, outlined by yellow lines in the photo.



Photo #7: Looking northwest from the top of the hill, there is sparse vegetation on the top of the hill. The area of sparse vegetation in the reclaimed area is relatively small.



Photo #8: Looking east from the southwest portion of the affected area at the area of where the proposed building will be constructed.

Inspection Contact Address

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