




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: Whirlwind Mine	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2007-044	MINERAL: Uranium and vanadium	COUNTY: Mesa
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: October 30, 2024	INSP. TIME: 11:00
OPERATOR: Energy Fuels Resources (USA) Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Race Fisher	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112d-1 - Designated Mining Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$375,078.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: DRMS	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S.BLM	
INSPECTOR(S): Amy Yeldell	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 6, 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>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>N</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>N</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</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>NA</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>NA</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 Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. The Whirlwind Mine is a 112d-1 underground Designated Mining Operation that includes a total of 31.9 permitted acres with a maximum disturbance of 22.6 acres. To date approximately 12 acres have been affected. The site is located seven mile southeast of Gateway, Colorado. Amy Yeldell of the Division conducted the inspection. Race Fisher of Energy Fuel Resources (USA) Inc represented the Operator. Jennifer Whittington of the Bureau of Land Management accompanied the Division on the inspection.

Backfilling and Grading:

No changed to the waste rock pile have occurred since the previous inspection

Financial Warranty:

Additionally, per the approval of CS-1, prior to any additional developments of mine workings, the underground portion of the reclamation cost estimate specifically, the bulkhead costs, will need to be re-evaluated. The Operator will need to provide the Division with three bids from independent contractors for the scope of work outlined under the Division's Memo: Cost Estimate for Water Impounding Concrete Bulkheads dated Nov. 14, 2007. Any additional financial warranty required to cover the underground closures will need to be posted prior to work commencing. For the time being the Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$375,078 for this site. The bond was review last in 2022.

Hydrologic Balance:

The site conditions around the water treatment system and stormwater ponds on the north side of the site remain unchanged. In order for mining to progress the underground workings must be dewatered and that water must be treated. Prior to the installation of a new system a technical revision will be required. According to the Operator a TR will be forthcoming.

Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

As of June 7, 2022 per CS-1 the site is in active status after having been in temporary cessation for an extended period of time. Crews completed their safety rehab work of the tunnel in fall of 2023. No activity occurred during the 2024 season. The portal was locked at the time of the inspection. In order to proceed with site development dewatering of the decline is required. No ventilation shafts have been installed to date.

Misc. equipment previously stored on the pad while conducting rehab work has been removed from site or placed underground. Waste timbers remain on site. No fuel is stored on site, all fuel for equipment is brought up in slip tanks. All storage buildings/ containers appeared well organized. The solar panels have been removed from site but the frame and storage shed remains.

Other:

Energy Fuel's goals are to get the water treatment system add on permitted over the winter so that come spring of 2025 they can begin dewatering. This will likely involve adding an additional treatment trailer and placing a new liner in the tanks.

Next during the 2025 mining season the goal is to drive 600 feet of drift. Mining will progress as permitted by dewatering. A vent hole will then be required to be installed on the Colorado side. This will also serve as a secondary escapeway. Additionally in Spring of 2025 Energy Fuels plans to build and ore storage pad so that they can begin storing ore as soon as it is encountered. This will be a lined pad located directly outside of the portal on the pad. Ore will then be transported to an off-site mill located in Utah.

Processing Waste:

No onsite processing will occur.

Revegetation:

The operator has mowed nuisance plant species. Few State listed noxious weeds were observed. Overall vegetated areas appear stable.

Sediment Control:

The access road to the site and overall area was muddy from recent snow and rain storms. In general the site appeared stable with no excessive erosion despite the frequent freeze thaw of recent storms.

Support Facilities On-site:

The buildings were unlocked at opened at the time of the inspection/ All buildings appear to be well maintained. The water treatment area remains locked as no work in this area is occurring.

Signs and Markers:

A mine sign was posted at the entrance to the mine site as required by Rule 3.1.12(1). The information depicted was correct/ up to date and the sign was of sufficient size. The permit boundary of the affected land was clearly delineated primarily by a wire fence pursuant to Rule 3.1.12(2). The buildings and water treatment areas remain fenced off.

No problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Rm 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver CO 80216. Direct contact can be made by phone at 3970-21-1272 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

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PHOTOGRAPHS











