



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Girardi - DNR, Chris <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

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## Stear Dirt M2024037- Pre-Operational Inspection Report

1 message

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**Girardi - DNR, Chris** <chris.girardi@state.co.us>

Tue, Nov 19, 2024 at 12:38 PM

To: Kyle Regan <kyle@civilresources.com>

Cc: Jared Ebert - DNR <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Hello,

Attached to this email is a copy of the Division's Inspection Report for the inspection conducted on October 2, 2024.

A hard copy will not be mailed unless requested.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Chris Girardi

Environmental Protection Specialist Intern



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

P: (720) 793-3041

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

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**StearDirt\_PreOpInspection\_10.2.24.pdf**

2690K



**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> Stear Dirt Mine	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-2024-037	<b>MINERAL:</b> Overburden	<b>COUNTY:</b> Weld
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Pre-operation Inspection	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> October 2, 2024	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 08:20am
<b>OPERATOR:</b> David Hunt	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> David Hunt	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Pre-operation Inspection	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$1,126,620.93	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Chris Girardi Jared Ebert	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> November 19, 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>N</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>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>N</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>N</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 was a pre-operational inspection of the Stear Dirt site conducted by Chris Girardi and Jared Ebert of the Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division). Mr. David Hunt, the Applicant and landowner, was present during the inspection.

The 112(c) Reclamation Permit was received by the Division on July 22, 2024. The Application was approved by the Division on October 23, 2024.

The site is a 277.0-acre construction materials permit. The site is currently used as irrigated cropland. The site is located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Gilcrest, CO in Weld County. The notice sign was observed during the inspection as required by Rule 1.6.2(b). The permit area will also incorporate the M-2022-050 Hunt Irrigation Pond 111(1)(b) permit, which has been reclaimed as a lined irrigation pond.

The proposed mine site was observed from WCR 40, WCR 29, and Farmers Independent Ditch running along the northern boundary of the permit. The site vegetation consisted of alfalfa, corn silage, and pasture grass. There was no mining occurring and no mining equipment was on-site. A central pivot, a drill seeder, and other agricultural equipment were observed. The proposed mining activity will occur for approximately of 14 years, with mining and concurrent reclamation taking place in 10-acre phases. The primary commodities to be extracted are topsoil and overburden material to a depth of four (4) feet and sold as reclamation fill material. Topsoil will be stockpiled and stabilized during mining activities, with a portion of the material remaining on-site to be used in reclamation of the permit area. No material processing will occur. The Applicant committed to remaining at least two (2) feet above the anticipated highest groundwater elevation. Pre-existing drainage patterns will be maintained. A stormwater discharge point is in the northeast corner of the site and will discharge to the northeast of the permit area. The post-mining land use for the site is cropland. The site will be reclaimed by backfilling the pit with imported inert fill material and approximately 3 inches of on-site topsoil, which will be stockpiled during mining activities amended with manure prior to backfilling. The reclamation seed mix consists of alfalfa, and various grasses.

The required financial warranty for the site is \$1,126,620.93, as calculated by the Applicant in Exhibit L of the application.

Photographs taken during the inspection are attached. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact me at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, by telephone at (720) 793-3041, or by email at [chris.girardi@state.co.us](mailto:chris.girardi@state.co.us).

## PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Proposed Mine Permit Sign.



Photo 2: Current land use and vegetation.



Photo 3: Current land use and vegetation.



Photo 4: Farmers Independent Ditch along northern permit boundary.



Photo 5: Farmers Independent Ditch through culvert at intersection of WCR 42 and WCR 29.



Photo 6: Drainage pond adjacent to Farmers Independent Ditch.



Photo 7: Settling Pond adjacent to Farmers Independent.



Photo 8: On-site farming equipment.



Photo 9: On-site drill seeder.



Photo 10: On-site central pivot.

**Inspection Contact Address**

David Hunt  
14460 WCR 40  
Platteville, CO 80651