



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Peat Mine, M1994081- Inspection Problems Past Due

1 message

Girardi - DNR, Chris <chris.girardi@state.co.us>
To: brandongarrison39@gmail.com, mortensenmw@gmail.com
Cc: Jared Ebert - DNR <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Tue, Dec 31, 2024 at 11:03 AM

Hello,

Attached to this email is a Notice of Outstanding Corrective Action Letter for the inspection problems noted in the September 2024 Inspection Report sent on October 18, 2024.

Please note you will have 30 days from the date of this letter to address the Outstanding Corrective Action.

A hard copy will not be mailed unless requested.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Have a great day and a Happy New Year,
Chris

Chris Girardi

Environmental Protection Specialist Intern



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

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NoticePastDue_InspectionProblems_PeatMine_M1994081.pdf
325K



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

December 31, 2024

Mr. Brandon Garrison
Mortensen's Landscape & Irrigation
5868 Road 106 South
Alamosa, CO 81101

Re: Notice of Outstanding Corrective Actions, Peat Mine, Permit No. M-1994-081

Mr. Garrison:

On September 6, 2024, the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division/DRMS) performed a routine monitoring inspection of the Peat Mine, M1994-081. As a result of the inspection, the Division cited problems, see below, that had corrective action due dates on or before December 13, 2024. To date documentation that the problem has been resolved remains outstanding. Please resolve the corrective actions and provide evidence of each resolution on or before January 30, 2025.

Please note that if the corrective actions are not properly addressed, and evidence provided to the Division by the date provided above, the listed problems could be escalated to the level of possible violation and referred to the Mined Land Reclamation Board for further action.

1. INSPECTION TOPIC: Signs and markers

PROBLEM: The mine identification sign and affected area boundary markers were not observed.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: In accordance with Rule 3.1.12, the Operator must post a sign at the entrance to the mine site which shall be clearly visible from the access road and specify the following; the name of the operator, indicate the permit number, and indicate the reclamation permit for the operation has been issued by the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board. Conduct a survey and mark the approved affected land. The boundaries of the affected area must be marked by monuments or other markers that are clearly visible and adequate to delineate such boundaries. Please provide the Division a notice when this has been completed.

2. INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM: There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to



employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. The DRMS approved a Technical Revision (TR-1) on 12/19/2016, which was a Weed Management Plan. Per the approved plan, if weeds have been identified, the Operator is required to use a backpack sprayer or a 4-wheeler using chemicals approved by and after consultation with Alamosa County and the San Luis Valley Weed Management Association. Please provide a written response to the Division that identifies a timeline for implementing the approved weed management plan.

3. **INSPECTION TOPIC:** Mine Plan

PROBLEM: The Operator is not adhering to the approved mining plan of conducting mining in 10-acre phases. The current mine plan needs to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-112(1)(c)(VI). The operator must provide sufficient information to describe or identify how the operator intends to conduct the operation.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The Operator shall submit a Technical Revision (TR) to update the mining plan, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved mine plan to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at chris.girardi@state.co.us.

Sincerely,



Chris Girardi
Environmental Protection Specialist Intern

cc: Jared Ebert; DRMS