

# 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:
Rifle Gravel Pit #1	M-2021-052	Gravel and sand	Garfield
INSPECTION TYPE:	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE:	INSP. TIME:
Surety-Related Inspection		January 28, 2025	09:00
OPERATOR:	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b>	TYPE OF OPERATION:	
Western Slope Materials, LLC	Sean Mello	112c - Construction Regular Operation	

<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b>		BOND CALCULATION TYPE:	BOND AMOUNT:
Surety Related		Complete Bond	\$0.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT:		POST INSP. CONTACTS:	JOINT INSP. AGENCY:
NA		None	None
INSPECTOR(S):	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:		SIGNATURE DATE:
Todd Jesse			February 20, 2025
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## 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: The 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:** 3/20/25

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This inspection report was conducted as part of the succession of operator process established by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety's Active Mines Program to verify conditions in order to calculate an updated financial warranty. The Rifle Gravel Pit #1 is a 112c Operation operated by Western Slope Materials. The site is located 1 mile southwest of Silt, CO at an elevation of approximately 5385 feet. Public access is controlled by a gate from Hwy 346. Sean Mello and Adam Kessler of Western Slope Materials were present during the inspection. The sky was mostly clear with temperatures in the 30s. The ground was partially snow covered from recent storms.

#### Financial Warranty:

In an effort to ensure the financial warranty remains adequate to reclaim this site per the requirements of the approved reclamation plan, DRMS has updated the Reclamation Cost Estimate. Calculations show that the existing bond amount of \$336,963.00 is sufficient to complete reclamation per the approved Reclamation Plan. The Succussion of Operator will not be issued until the replacement financial warranty is received by the Division.

#### Hydrologic Balance:

There is no groundwater exposed within the permit boundary. Groundwater monitoring wells were observed in the permit area (Photo 1). There are wetlands within the permit boundary that may be a result of seepage from the Last Chance Ditch Tailwater Ditch. The operator plans on making repairs to the ditch to better define wetlands before mining. The water in the ditch was partially frozen at the time of the inspection (Photo 2).

No hydrocarbons or equipment were present on site.

#### Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan:

No activity has taken place at the site - the permit is still undisturbed (Photo 3). Western Slope Materials has stated that they plan to submit a revision to change the Mining and Reclamation Plans once the SO process is finalized.

#### Signs and Markers:

As noted above the mine identification sign was missing at the time of inspection. It was likely knocked down by weather (Photo 4). The affected area boundary markers are in place and in compliance with Rule 3.1.12. The permit boundary is marked with fence lines.

All responses to this report should be directed to Todd Jesse with the Division's Active Mines Program at DRMS, Room 215, 1001 E. 62nd Ave. Denver, CO 80216. Direct contact can be made at the Division's Grand Junction Field Office, by phone at (720) 688-0626 or by email at todd.jesse@state.co.us.

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1 - View to the east of groundwater monitoring well.



Photo 2 – View to the northeast of Last Chance Ditch.



Photo 3 - View to the southwest of undisturbed ground across the permit area.



Photo 4 – View to the north of missing Mine ID sign at the entrance to the site.

#### **GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS**

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS <u>N</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY Y	(RD) ROADS <u>N</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE <u>Y</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>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE <u>N</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION <u>N</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS <u>PB</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

Inspection Contact Address Sean Mello Western Slope Materials, LLC P.O. Box 1319 Carbondale, CO 81623