

April 17, 2025

Jodi Schreiber
PFM Consulting LLC
1774 North Cougar Drive
Pueblo West, CO 81007

RE: Verhoeff Gravel Pit #1, File No. M-2014-025, Technical Revision (TR-1), Adequacy Review #1

Ms. Schreiber:

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) has completed its adequacy review #1 of your Technical Revision (TR-1) submitted for the Verhoeff Gravel Pit #1 located in Bent County. TR-1 was called complete on April 7, 2025. The decision date for TR-1 is currently set for May 7, 2025.

The Division's review consisted of comparing the TR-1 content with the requirements of the Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials. The Division has identified adequacy items requiring clarification or additional information. These items are identified below under their respective exhibit heading and are numbered sequentially.

Exhibit C – Pre-Mining and Mining Plan Map(s) of Affected Lands (Rule 6.4.3):

TR-1 proposes changing the approved mine phasing from 5 phases to 2 phases and increasing the maximum allowed disturbed acreage at any time from 50 acres to 100 acres.

- 1) Please provide an updated Mining Plan Map (current approved map enclosed) that includes the following:
 - a) All general map requirements of Rule 6.2.1(2):
 - i. show name of the operator;
 - ii. is prepared and signed by a registered land surveyor, professional engineer, or other qualified person;
 - iii. give date prepared;
 - iv. identify and outline the area which corresponds with the application;
 - v. shall be prepared at a scale that is appropriate to clearly show all elements that are required to be delineated by the Act and Rules, not larger than 1 inch = 50 feet nor smaller than 1 inch = 660 feet;
 - vi. include a map scale, appropriate legend (identifying the permit boundary and all other map features), map title (Exhibit C – Mining Plan Map), date, and a north arrow.
 - b) Additional items:



- i. The location(s) of any topsoil stockpiles for each proposed phase.
- ii. The location(s) for material stockpiling for each proposed phase.
- iii. The location(s) of any fuel/oil storage for each proposed phase.
- iv. The location(s) of any water management structures, including sediment ponds, sumps, ditches, culverts, and discharge locations required for the operation for each proposed phase.
- v. The acreage of the proposed mining area for each proposed phase. (Note the map submitted shows Phase 1 = 120 acres and Phase 5 = 139 acres, which add up to a total of 259 acres; this exceeds the approved 250-acre permit area. Also, phase 5 appears to be an error, as there are only 2 phases proposed.)
- vi. The direction of mining.
- vii. Any proposed mining setbacks from existing structures and/or the permit boundaries. (Note, the current approved mining plan map shows 50-foot buffers from two wells located on the affected lands, a 75-foot buffer from a utility line that crosses the affected lands, 25-foot setbacks from the eastern, western, and southern permit boundaries, and a 50-foot setback from the county road. If the operator is proposing new setbacks, please ensure any agreement with the applicable structure owner(s) reflects this change.
- viii. The name of the existing access road (County Road JJ).

Exhibit D – Mining Plan (Rule 6.4.4):

- 2) Please provide an updated mining plan (current approved plan enclosed) detailing the new mine phasing proposed, including:
 - a) The maximum proposed disturbance at any time (to be associated with the revised bond estimate).
 - b) An estimate of the periods of time which will be required for the various stages or phases of the operation.
 - c) A description of the size and location of each area to be worked during each phase.
 - d) An outline of the sequence in which each stage or phase of the operation will be carried out.
 - e) A description of the types of disturbances to occur in each phase of the operation (e.g., mining, stockpiling, equipment storage, material processing, roads, truck scale).
 - f) Specify the dimensions of any existing or proposed roads that will be used for each mining phase, and describe any surfacing (e.g., graveled, paved) of those roads.
 - g) Describe any associated drainage and runoff conveyance structures for each mining phase to include sufficient information to evaluate structure sizing.

Exhibit E – Reclamation Plan (Rule 6.4.5):

- 3) Please clarify if the proposals in TR-1 will in any way change the approved reclamation plan (enclosed). If so, please provide a revised reclamation plan.

Exhibit F – Reclamation Plan Map (Rule 6.4.6):

- 4) Please clarify if the proposals in TR-1 will in any way change the approved reclamation plan map (enclosed). If so, please provide a revised reclamation plan map. [Note the current approved reclamation plan map shows the northern edge of the permit area will not be mined and several buffers will be maintained from structures located within the affected lands (e.g., wells, utility line). If the operator is proposing anything different from what is shown on the current approved map, a new reclamation plan map must be submitted.]

Exhibit L – Reclamation Costs (Rule 6.4.12):

- 5) Please provide an updated bond estimate that includes costs for reclaiming the proposed 100 acres of disturbance in accordance with the approved (or proposed) reclamation plan.

This concludes the Division's adequacy review #1 of TR-1. Please ensure the Division has sufficient time to complete its review process by responding to these adequacy items no later than one week prior to the decision date, by **April 30, 2025**. If additional time is needed to respond, you must submit an extension request to our office prior to the decision date.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by telephone at 720-793-3031, or by email at ursula.armstrong@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

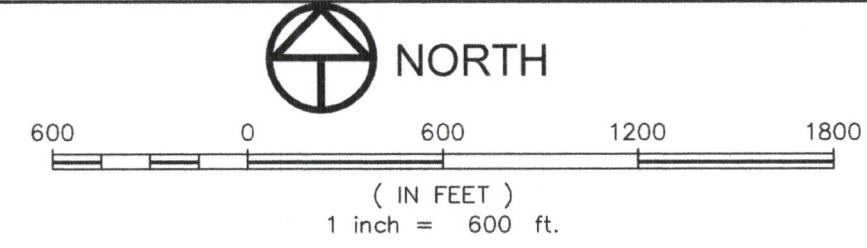
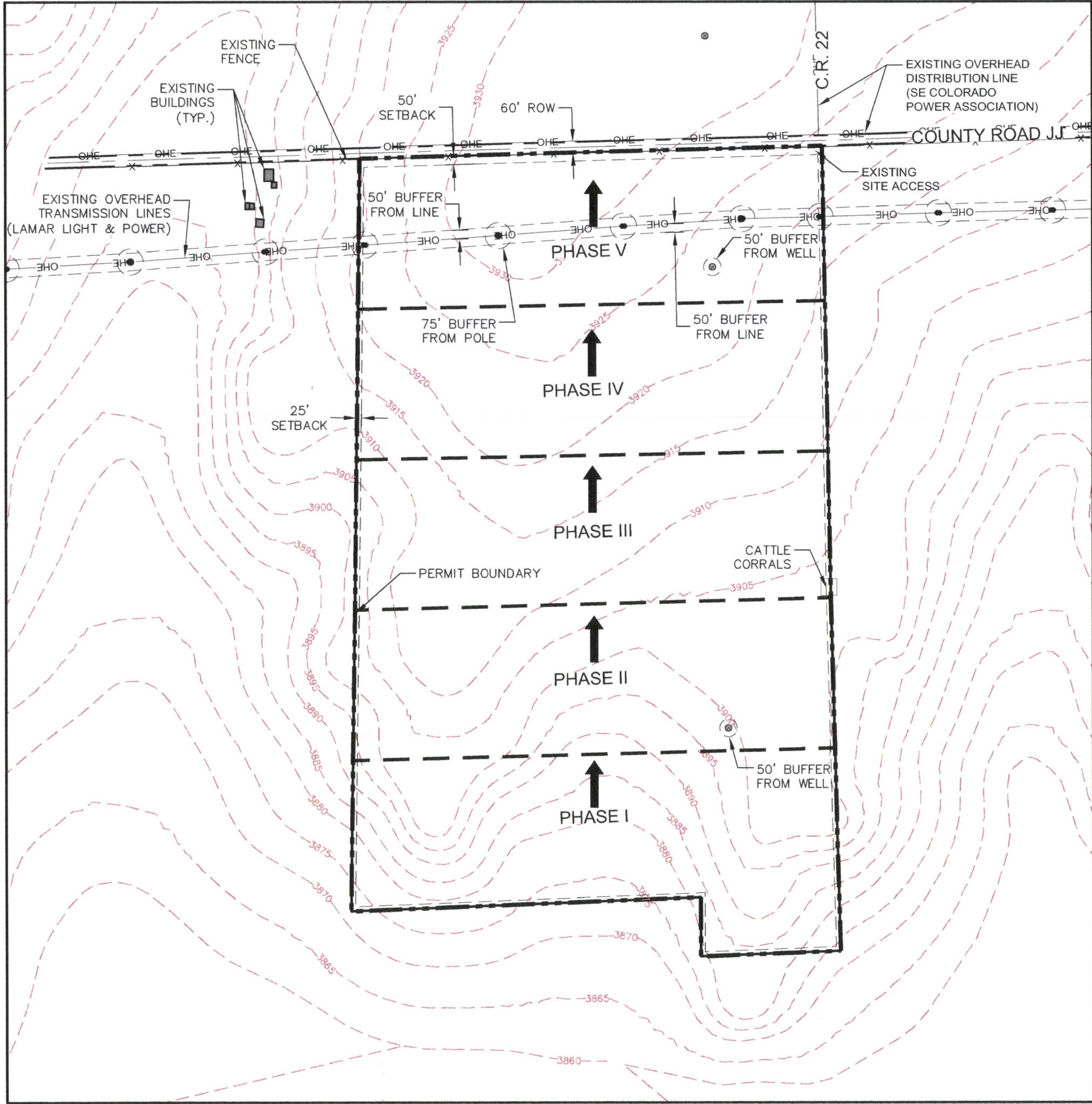


Ursula Armstrong
Environmental Protection Specialist

Encls: Approved Mining Plan Map
Approved Mining Plan
Approved Reclamation Plan
Approved Reclamation Plan Map

Cc: John Ary, All-Rite Paving & Redi-Mix, Inc.
Amy Eschberger, DRMS

DRAWING FILENAME: F:\590-002 Environmental Alternatives\Verhoeff Pit\Drawings\Exhibit C-3.dwg LAYOUT NAME: C-3 DATE: Mar 20, 2014 - 12:16pm CAD OPERATOR: Corey
LIST OF XREFS: [Verh_xExt] [FW-TB 11x17 - DRMS] [Verh_xTopo]

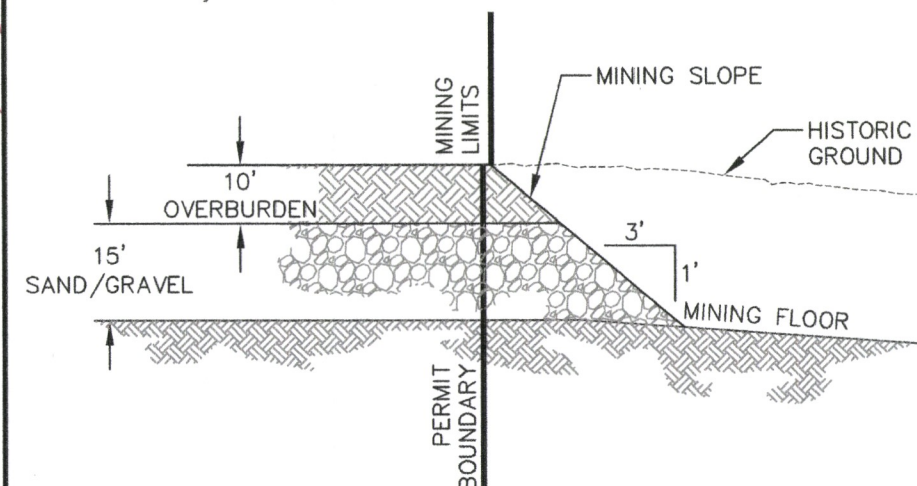


LEGEND:

PERMIT BOUNDARY	
MINING PHASE BOUNDARY	
LIMITS OF MINING	
EXISTING ROAD	
EXISTING 5 FOOT CONTOUR	
MINING DIRECTION	

NOTES:

1. Adjacent land uses are primarily agricultural.
2. Mining activities will include scrapers, excavators, loaders, and haul trucks. On-site processing includes portable crushing, screening, and washing aggregate products. Finished aggregate products are stockpiled adjacent to the processing facility. A portable asphalt plant may also be used on-site if required for specific projects.
3. Approximately 5 to 10 feet of overburden material will be removed prior to aggregate mining. Once overburden is removed, it is estimated that between 10 and 15 feet of the sand and gravel deposit will be mined.
4. Mining will occur in five phases of approximately 50 acres each.
5. No groundwater will be encountered during mining.
6. Mining will not create highwalls and will excavate 3H:1V pit slopes as mining progresses.
7. The configuration of internal haul roads will be adjusted as mining progresses.
8. Topsoil and overburden not immediately used for reclamation will be stockpiled on the pit floor.
9. Best Management Practices will be used to limit the discharge of stormwater sediment onto adjacent properties and waterways.



TYPICAL MINING SECTION

blueearth solutions

Will Verhoeff
WILLIAM SCHENDERLEIN

EXHIBIT C-3

PRE-MINING/MINING PLAN

REGULAR 112 PERMIT APPLICATION

ALL RITE PAVING AND RED-MIX - LAMAR DIVISION

VERHOEFF GRAVEL PIT #1

BENT COUNTY, COLORADO

SHEET

3 OF 3

SCALE: 1" = 600'

DATE: March, 2014

6.4.4 Exhibit D

Mining Plan

The Verhoeff Gravel Pit will mine to a total depth of 25 feet. The target reserve is approximately 10-15 feet thick below approximately 10 feet of overburden. The primary commodity is gravel with secondary commodity of dirt. Overburden and fines will be retained on site for reclamation.

The life of the proposed operation is speculative due to fragile economic condition of the construction industry. If economic demand remains low and extraction is limited to less than 70,000 tons per year, approximately six acres per year will be mined. At this slow extraction rate, the life of the mine would extend to no less than 20 years. In the event demand for construction aggregate improves, the life of the mine is anticipated to be 12 to 15 years. Determination of the life of the mine is difficult.

The mine will develop in five phases with approximately 50 acres per phase. Five phases will be delineated with boundaries transecting the property from east to west. Phase I will be the southernmost phase and mining will progress northward through the reserve. The life of each phase with low economic demand will be approximately 5 years.

Earthmoving equipment will vary with mine development. Depending on depth of plant growth material and overburden, bulldozers and/or scrapers will be used to expose target reserve. Loaders will extract the gravel reserve and feed the processing plant. Bulldozers will maintain slopes and manage stockpiles when necessary. Reclamation will require bulldozers and graders to contour slopes and prepare surfaces for seeding.

The aggregate processing plant will move with the active mining phase. The processing plant will include portable crushers, screens and conveyors. A portable asphalt plant may operate on site in the processing area if required for a project. During initial development of Phase I, the processing plant will be located on ground surface. As the pit develops, the plant will be located on the pit floor and will remain in the pit until the end of mining of Phase V. The control van will serve as operation center for employees. All interior haul roads will be temporary, reclaimed as mining progresses.

Mining products and byproducts stockpiles will be located within the bonded area of disturbance. The top ten (10) inches of soil suitable as plant growth medium will be salvaged and stockpiled for use during reclamation. Plant medium will be stockpiled in perimeter stockpiles and posted as reclamation topsoil. Waste rock, fines and overburden will be stockpiled and used to rebuild the pit floor and/or pit slopes concurrent with mining. During initial development of Phase I, stockpiles will be located on ground surface. As the pit develops, stockpiles will be moved to the pit floor, below ground surface. Perimeter stormwater berms will be constructed of overburden and fines as mining and reclamation progresses.

Reclamation will occur concurrently with mining. Slope grades will be maintained no greater than 3H:1V during mining. When areas are mined out, fines and overburden will be used to rebuild the pit floor and contour slopes as needed.

Setbacks are required for manmade structures owned by Lamar Light and Power, Southeastern Colorado Power Association, Bent County and Mr Verhoeff. Bent County requested a 50 foot setback from the 60 foot ROW for County Road JJ. The transmission line owned by Lamar Light and Power traverses the north portion of the property. Transmission line poles will have a 75 foot radial setback and 50 foot easement where no mining will occur. The distribution line is located north of County Road JJ and will not be affected by mining. Mr. Verhoeff requested a 50 foot setback from fences and well structures. Water pipelines and corrals owned by Mr. Verhoeff may be relocated or replaced as needed during mining.

Groundwater is not expected to be exposed at this excavation elevation; therefore no impact to the hydrologic balance is anticipated. No acid or toxic producing materials will be exposed during mining. No explosives will be used in conjunction with mining or reclamation.

Comments received August 17, 2012 from Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) indicate the southern portion of the subject property is located adjacent to a formally recognized segment of the Santa Fe Trail. As indicated in the mine plan map, the southern portion of the property is not included in the proposed affected area and this portion of the trail will be avoided. However, due to the meandering nature of historic trails there is a potential for associated features or artifacts to be present within the proposed affected area. In the event that an unidentified archaeological resource is identified during the mining operation, extraction will cease in the vicinity of the discovery and the SHPO will be immediately notified. Mining will resume in the vicinity of the discovery only upon receipt of SHPO approval.

6.4.5 Exhibit E Reclamation Plan

The site will be reclaimed to rangeland concurrently with mining in a rolling sequential fashion. As topsoil and waste rock/overburden are removed from a working face, they will be placed on slopes and floors of the previously mined out areas or stockpiled on the floor of the pit. Topsoil and waste rock/overburden stockpiles from the first working face will be used to reclaim the floor and slopes of previous disturbance.

Throughout mining, slopes will be maintained at 3H:1V minimum. Waste rock/overburden will be placed on the pit floor as quantity allows. Four to six inches of topsoil will be placed on affected surfaces. If necessary, surfaces will be roughened prior to seeding. The slopes and pit floor will be seeded upon completion of waste rock/overburden and topsoil placement.

The operator will use the NRCS recommended and DRMS approved seed mix for the neighboring Verhoeff Pit to the west. If drill seeded, spacing will occur at seven to ten inch spacing intervals to a depth of ¼ to ½ inches. If broadcast seeded, 13.2 PLS lbs/acre will be placed. NRCS did not recommend mulch or soil amendments for the Verhoeff Pit and will not be used on this site unless NRCS communicates to the contrary. The side mix is described in Table 1.

Table 1: NRCS Recommended Seed Mix

Species	PLS/Acre
Blue grama	0.6
Sideoats grama	2.3
Western wheatgrass	3.2
Sand dropseed	0.2
Yellow sweetclover	0.4

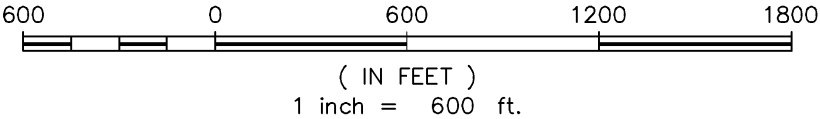
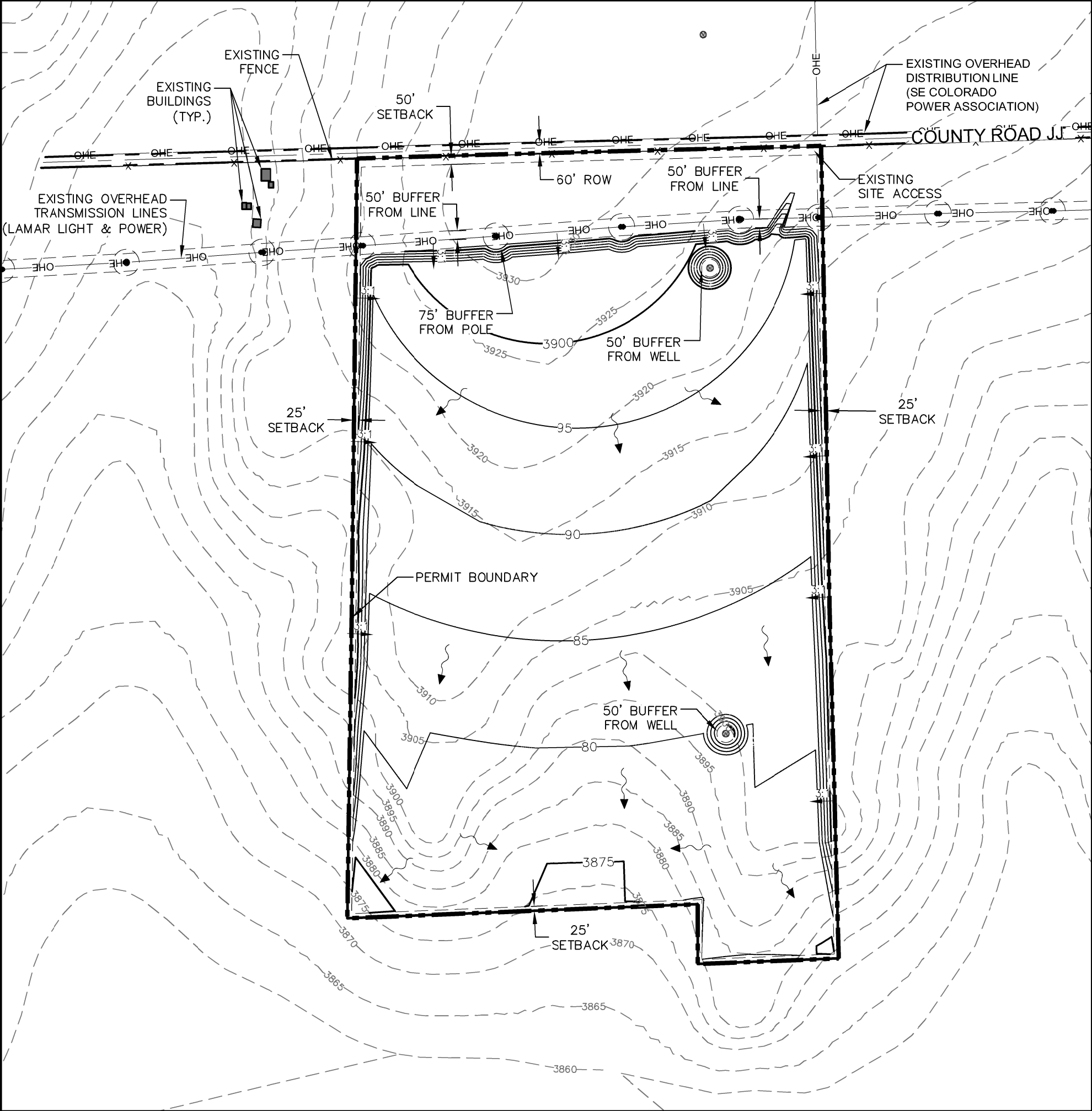
All mining structures will be reclaimed including the interior haul road and stormwater diversion structures. No ponds or streams are on site. All buildings are manufactured portable control vans and will be removed at the end of mining. No waste rock dumps, underground mine openings, or ditches are anticipated at the site.

Plant Growth Medium Preservation:

Throughout the mining area, salvageable surface material will be removed with an excavator and stockpiled for use in final reclamation.

Weed Control Plan

Upon commencement of reclamation, the area will be monitored for noxious weeds and implement appropriate methods to manage weed growth. Bent County Weed Control Program will be contacted for recommendations in the event noxious weeds develop.



LEGEND:

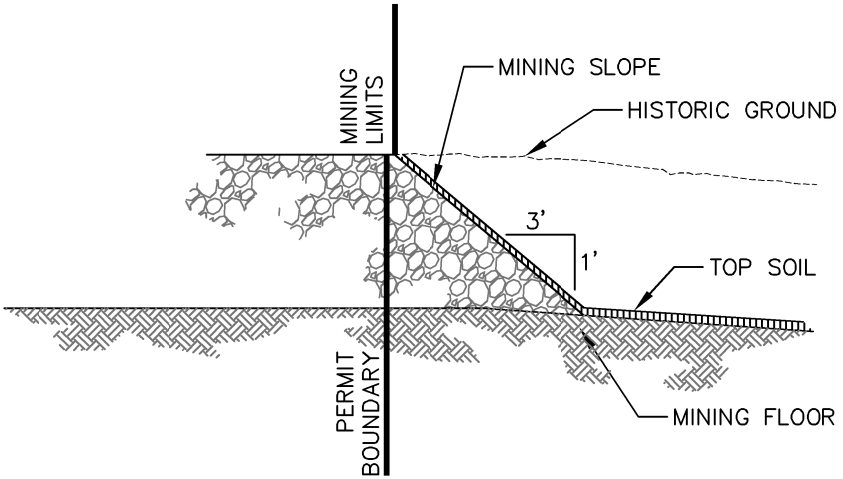
PERMIT BOUNDARY	
EXISTING ROAD	
EXISTING 1 FOOT CONTOUR	
EXISTING 5 FOOT CONTOUR	
PROPOSED 5 FOOT CONTOUR	
PROPOSED 25 FOOT CONTOUR	

NOTES:

1. Reclamation to rangeland will occur concurrently with mining activities.
2. As topsoil and overburden are removed from active mining areas, they will be placed on slopes and pit floors of previous mined out areas.
3. Topsoil and overburden not immediately used for reclamation will be stockpiled on the pit floor.
4. The NRCS recommended and DRMS approved seed mix for the neighboring Verhoeff Pit will be used during final reclamation.
5. During reclamation, reseeded areas will be monitored for noxious weeds and appropriate methods to manage weed growth will be implemented.

SPECIES	PLS/ACRE (DRILL SEEDING)
BLUE GRAMA	0.6
SIDEOATS GRAMA	2.3
WESTERN WHEATGRASS	3.2
SAND DROPSEED	0.2
YELLOW SWEETCLOVER	0.4

1. If drill seeded, spacing will occur at seven to ten inch spacing intervals to a depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
2. If broadcast seeded, 13.2 PLS lbs/acre will be placed.



TYPICAL RECLAMATION SECTION