

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 29, 2025
To: Permit File for Buffalo No 1 Illegal Mine, File No. M-2025-013
From: Ursula Armstrong, DRMS
RE: Buffalo No 1 Illegal Mine (M-2025-013)

On February 13, 2025, the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) was conducting a normal monitoring inspection of Buffalo No 1 (Permit No. M-1978-011), when it observed mining disturbance in Phase IV of that permit, which the operator, General Shale Brick, Inc. (GSB) indicated was created by another entity without GSB's authorization. This mining disturbance was also not authorized by the Division, as the approved permit for Buffalo No 1 requires GSB to submit an appropriate revision to provide mining and reclamation plans and maps for any proposed disturbance in Phase IV prior to creating those disturbances. GSB had no immediate plans to mine Phase IV, and therefore, had not submitted the required revision. Based on the information provided during its inspection, the Division decided to investigate the unauthorized mining disturbance through a separate file number (File No. M-2025-013). This investigation included the following:

- During its February 13, 2025 normal monitoring inspection, the Division observed the unauthorized mining disturbance located in the eastern portion of the Buffalo No 1 Phase IV permit area. This disturbance includes two excavation areas, material stockpiles, and newly constructed roads. The total disturbance is estimated to be approximately 7 acres. No equipment or recent activity was observed during the inspection.
- During the inspection, the GSB representative provided a business card for the party responsible for the unauthorized disturbance, Randy DiCamillo of NTRS Earthworks LLC.
- On April 2, 2025, the Division contacted Mr. DiCamillo via telephone. During the call, Mr. DiCamillo explained that he had an agreement with the previous landowner to dig two ponds, but this landowner sold the property and ran off before Mr. DiCamillo could complete the pond project. According to Mr. DiCamillo, the disturbance created for the project occurred in late 2022 through 2023, and none of the material excavated from the site was sold or removed from the site. The construction material was only used for improving the previous landowner's roads. Mr. DiCamillo stated he has no interest in continuing to mine the site, since there is no gravel available. Furthermore, he does not have access to the site from the new landowner. During the call, the Division requested evidence of the project agreed upon between Mr. DiCamillo's company and the previous landowner. As of the date of this memorandum, no such documentation has been provided.
- The Division does not have any evidence that material excavated from the site was sold or hauled off site; therefore, at this time, we will not be seeking enforcement actions against Mr. DiCamillo for illegal mining.
- The Division will be working with GSB to address reclamation of the mining disturbance within Phase IV of their approved permit area.

