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

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: Pikeview Quarry	**MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:** M-1977-211	**MINERAL:** Limestone (general), granite gneiss and do	**COUNTY:** El Paso
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	**WEATHER:** Clear	**INSP. DATE:** July 15, 2025	**INSP. TIME:** 10:00
OPERATOR: Riverbend Industries Inc.	**OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:** Jerry Schnabel	**TYPE OF OPERATION:** 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	**BOND CALCULATION TYPE:**	**BOND AMOUNT:** $1,789,451.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	**POST INSP. CONTACTS:** None	**JOINT INSP. AGENCY:** None	
INSPECTOR(S): Hunter Ridley	**INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:** Hunter Ridley	**SIGNATURE DATE:** July 25, 2025	

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: Sediment Control
PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION: Problem: Erosion gullies and ruts were observed on-site. This is a problem at this time for failure to protect the affected land from erosion pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (4) (j).
CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall provide photo documentation to the Division verifying erosion gullies and ruts have been repaired, and that the site has have been reconstructed and stabilized to prevent erosion damage by the corrective action date.
CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 9/26/25

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted by Hunter Ridley, Russ Means, and Zach Trujillo with the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) as part of the continuing semi-annual monitoring inspections to observe final revegetation efforts at the Pikeview Quarry. Jerry Schnabel (representing the Permittee, Riverbend Industries Inc.) and Stantec representative Paul Kos were present for the inspection. U.S. Forest Service (USFS) representatives Cullen Lapointe and Madison Banks were present and City of Colorado Springs representative

David Deitemeyer was also present at the inspection. All earthwork and final grading have been completed on site. Daily staff have been removed from the site as Pikeview staff monitor revegetation efforts, drainage way efficacy, and monitor for any signs of settling or slope movement. Therefore, the Division will continue to conduct semi-annual inspections at this site until its release.

The mine sign, which included all required information pursuant to Rule 3.1.12, was located at the site's access road.

Records: The placement of backfill material and subsequent compaction testing has ceased at Pikeview Quarry. In total, compaction testing occurred on backfill material from March of 2022 to July of 2024. A reduction in frequency of geotechnical report submission was approved by the Division in TR-25. This reduced reporting frequency from monthly to quarterly. The Division received a quarterly report on January 31, 2025 and on April 30, 2025. The next report will be due in August 2025 and include observation data from April 2025 to June 2025.

Annual reports are current, having been filed through May 2025. The previous inspection was on January 24, 2025.

Leica prism system data continues to be collected onsite and monitored remotely by Riverbend Industries. Trends continue to show that the buttress has achieved long term stability, with little to no movement recorded over the past 6 months. All settlement related to construction is effectively over, although the slope may see more minor signs of movement in the spring as snowmelt and rainfall influence the slope. No alerts for significant movements, which is required for any movement greater than 0.35 ft, were reported to the Division. Review of prism data will ultimately aid the Division in its decision to approve or deny the eventual final release of the Pikeview Quarry permit.

As a partial landowner, the City of Colorado Springs may retain the use of the prism system after final release from Division jurisdiction as prism data would aid in formulating future land use plans for the site.

Backfilling and Grading: All major earthwork is complete at the site. However, the Division has retained a portion of the bond which addresses earthwork to serve as liability in case of any minor slumps or erosional work that may be needed throughout final reclamation. No such erosional features or slumps were visible at the time of inspection.

At the time of inspection, the partial landowner, the City of Colorado Springs, had begun work on a trail system in the Blodgett Open Space adjacent to the Pikeview Quarry Site (Photo 1). Trail creation is within the Pikeview permit boundary but is outside of the site's disturbance boundary. Prior to release, Pikeview will be required to submit a Technical Revision to update site maps to show the addition of these minor trails.

Roads: The site has completed its work in obliterating all roads on Forest Service property, as requested by the Forest Service. The 'pocketed' grading design requested by the forest service both discourages the use of this slope as a navigable path, and creates small areas for water to collect, creating microclimates and more diverse vegetation establishment over time. Vegetation in this area was tall and full. Each portion of the road was approved by the Forest Service as Pikeview worked to obliterate the full slope area. Final work to be done in this area includes the placement of an additional rock/boulder barrier at the obliterated road entrance.

On City property, the City has opted to keep previous roadways flat, but these have been seeded to blend in with the surrounding landscape.

Fish and Wildlife: No negative impact on wildlife was observed. Several Bighorn were spotted on the upper levels of the buttress. Colorado Parks & Wildlife has been active on site, tracking the herd and occasionally tagging several rams for research and management. Various small birds, raptors, rattlesnakes, and bugs have been seen and or reported on site, suggesting that the reclamation at Pikeview is supporting a multi-leveled and well-rounded ecosystem.

Revegetation & Topsoil: All areas on site have either been hydro mulched, drill seeded, matted, or have undergone a combination of these techniques for revegetation.

A majority of the main backfilled slopes area (upper and lower) have been matted to encourage revegetation and protect against erosion. The Division observed very successful vegetation growth on these areas, with predominant vegetation made up of native and desirable species such as wheatgrasses, rice grass, oatgrass, bottlebrush, and rye grass. Desirable forbs were also observed, including but not limited to alfalfa, sunflowers, clover, and Cicer milkvetch (Photos 4, 6, and 14). Some growth of planted trees and shrubs was noted (e.g. Photo 9), although the thick and mature prairie grasses species made it difficult to see them completely. Pikeview personnel noted that the required tree and shrub survey would be conducted later in the season, once grasses had gone formant for winter, to allow for better visibility and precision in counting surviving tree and shrub species. This survey should be submitted to the Division when available. Please see the 'Post Inspection Meeting' section below for further details.

The south borrow area and USFS land to the south are both looking lush and well vegetated (Photo 3). The obliterated road area on USFS land was walked in its entirety during the inspection and was growing thick and mature vegetation, similar to the main backfilled slope area. Slopes to the north, owned by both the City of Colorado Springs and USFS have improved greatly in terms of vegetation. Slopes in these areas have supported vegetation in the past, but the diversity of vegetation was lacking, the slope being mainly made up of alfalfa and clover. This has been discussed during past inspections as not being a desirable condition for revegetated slopes, as Rule 3.1.10(1) of the Construction Materials Rules and Regulations requires final release areas to have 'diverse and long-lasting cover'. These areas have since been reseeded and have shown improved growth of diversity of species, with wheatgrasses and other forbs popping up among the preexisting alfalfa and clover plants (Photos 5 and 11).

The Leica prism level bench (Photos 2, 4, and 10), was seeded in a similar fashion to the northern City and USFS slopes discussed above but has not been drill seeded a second time. Consequently, this section of the slope shows less favorable growth of vegetation in terms of both species and diversity of cover. This section is predominantly made up of yellow and white clover (Photo 7). While some small batches of bunch grasses are popping up between larger clover plants (Photo 8), there is still a clear and visible delineation of vegetative growth between where matting was placed and where only one round of drill seeding occurred (Photo 10). While the decision is ultimately up to the Operator, for long-term survival and flourish of native species on this slope, the Division would recommend re-drill seeding of the area if this can be done without major damage to the preexisting vegetation.

The three peak areas, which were hydro mulched in early 2024 are showing signs of growth (Photo 14 and 18). The Division would like to point out that growth in the peaks area is not intended to resemble the lush growth of the bottom slope areas. Rather, the hydro mulching of these areas allowed seeds to stick and settle into pockets in the rocky slope where small clusters of vegetative growth could form.

Excess matting material is available onsite for any supplemental revegetation needs, however the Division and Pikeview did not observe any areas exceedingly lacking in vegetive growth or being affected by erosion that would require the use of this extra matting.

Various weed species were identified during inspection, including knapweed, thistles, and myrtle spurge. These were acknowledged by the site's on site weed sprayer and targeted for removal & spraying as per ongoing weed management activities.

Hydrologic Balance & Sediment Control: The large culvert area at the eastern end of the site was noted to be diverting water successfully under the buttress as designed. Water is flowing consistently towards the eastern edge of the permit and into the adjacent open space, following natural waterways. The Division, the site, and the City discussed plans for the installation of safety signs near the large stan pipes in this area to discourage public access after the permit is released. The guzzler system for the 'sheep pond' area on the upper slope has not yet been installed, but is planned to be installed at the same time as safety grates are installed over the stan pipe area. Irrigation tanks which were previously located on the lower buttress bench have been removed. Watering of the slopes has not occurred since early 2024.

As the site was hiked for the inspection, three areas of concern in regards to erosion control were pointed out. These are shown in Photos 12, 13, and 15-17. Therefore, the Division is citing a problem for these three areas in combination for failure to protect the affected land from erosion pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116 (4) (j). The operator shall, by the corrective action date of **9/26/2025**, provide photo documentation to the Division verifying erosion gullies and ruts have been repaired, and that the areas of concern have been reconstructed and stabilized to prevent erosion damage.

The first area is a section of 3-4 erosion gullies which were forming along the reseeded northern haul road (Photo 13). The gullies were approaching 2 feet deep in some areas. The Division and inspection participants hiked further up the slope and determined that water was likely leaving the constructed channel (C4) and creating gullies downslopes at the point where rip rap sizing changes (Photo 12). The Division and site personnel agreed that the gullies should be regraded and that the C4 channel could be slightly expanded and the transition between larger boulders and gravel could be reworked to be more gradual in an effort to keep water flowing within the designed channel. These improvements will likely solve the downslope erosional issues while vegetation is still being established on the old haul road slope.

The second area of concern is located at the tie in area of Channels T7 and T8 on the upper slopes (Photo 15). Sedimentation occurs at this tie in area and if left unaddressed could hinder functionality of the drainage channel. Site personnel committed to reworking this area to extend the channel out slightly and redirect water back into the rip rap channel.

The third and final area is shown in Photos 16 and 17. Two small holes have formed just above a small, natural rock outcropping of bedrock on the upper slopes. Site personnel explained that these had been silting in over the previous weeks and decreased in size. However, it was discussed that these holes should be more formally filled in with larger material. This would ensure stability of the slope above the outcropping and hinder stormwater flow into these holes and under the outcropping, with the aim of avoiding any future slope stability concerns. Loose, mid-sized bedrock material from atop the rock outcropping is available for filling these holes. With these holes filled, stormwater will be directed down and off the rock outcropping, rather than under and behind it.

Post Inspection Meeting: No possible violations were observed during the inspection. Items of importance discussed during the site meeting and items which will need to be followed up on are summarized below:

- Corrective action for the above cited problems will be submitted to the Division by 9/26/2025

- Conduct a tree and shrub survey as required in Pikeview's reclamation plan and submit this to the Division for review before final release (see final bullet point below)
- Continue to monitor and address invasive species and weed removal across the site during the appropriate seasons
- Prior to final release, submit to the Division a Technical Revision application which addresses any updates to the reclamation plan narrative and or reclamation plan maps. Map updates should include locations of any topsoil piles or sediment basins remaining, location of trails constructed by the City, any structures or buildings to remain on site (including the guzzler tank and prism system), etc. Updates to the narrative plan can include further discussion of and amendment to the proposed tree and shrub survival rates and discussion of the Leica prism system remaining in place after final release.

Photographs taken during the inspection have been included below. Responses to this inspection report should be directed to: Hunter Ridley at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 720-868-7757 or via email at hunter.ridley@state.co.us

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---------- N	**(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY-------- Y**	**(RD) ROADS---------- N**
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE---------- Y	**(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING---------- Y**	**(EX) EXPLOSIVES--------- N**
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING---- N	**(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES------- N**	**(TS) TOPSOIL---------- Y**
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- N	**(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE---------- Y**	**(RV) REVEGETATION---- Y**
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS---------- Y	**(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- N**	**(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- Y**
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE--------- N	**(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- PB**	**(ST) STIPULATIONS------- N**
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS------- N	**(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----------N**	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: Equipment and stockpiles onsite for use in the City of Colorado Springs trail work to the east of the site.

Photo 2: View west of reclaimed main slope from the Leica prism level.

Photo 3: View southwest of the south borrow area slope.

Photo 4: View northwest of the main reclaimed slope.

Photo 5: View north of the Dragons Back area and reclaimed City and USFS lands.

Photo 6: Example vegetation on slopes reclaimed with revegetation matting.

Photo 7: Example vegetation found on the bottom bench of the main slope, mainly clover species.

Photo 8: Example of native grass bunches growing on hillslope pictured in Photo 7.

Photo 9: Evidence of shrub survival and growth on revegetated slopes.

Photo 10: View west, depicts difference between hillslopes revegetated with matting versus drill seeding alone.

Photo 11: View northwest of the Dragons Back area and revegetated 'shop area'.

Photo 12: View east of the north channel, this area was observed to be the source of a few downslope erosional issues shown in

Photo 13.

Photo 13: Erosional issues on old haul road, source of erosion shown in Photo 12.

Photo 14: View southwest of upper vegetated slopes and three peaks areas.

Photo 15: Sedimentation observed at the tie in on Channels T7 and T8.

Photo 16: Hole observed near the western edge of a natural outcrop feature along the upper slopes.

Photo 17: Hole observed near the western edge of a natural outcrop feature along the upper slopes.

Photo 18: View west of example vegetation on the south peak.

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