




**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.

<b>MINE NAME:</b> Speer Mining Resource	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1983-176	<b>MINERAL:</b> Gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Adams
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> July 10, 2025	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:45
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Asphalt Specialties Co., Inc.	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Greg Geras	<b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
<b>REASON FOR INSPECTION:</b> Normal I&E Program	<b>BOND CALCULATION TYPE:</b> Complete Bond	<b>BOND AMOUNT:</b> \$678,169.00	
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None	
<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Nikie Gagnon	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> September 19, 2025	

**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----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(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>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</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

## **OBSERVATIONS**

This was a routine monitoring inspection of the Speer Mining Resource (Permit No. M-1983-176) conducted by Nikie Gagnon of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Mr. Greg Geras representing the operator, Asphalt Specialties Co., Inc. (Operator/ASCI) accompanied the Division during the inspection.

This is a 112c operation permitted for 75.5 acres with an approved post mining land use of general agriculture. The mine site is accessed South Platte River which flows along the west side of the permit area.

### **Availability Of Records:**

The annual report, map and fee are paid through December 6, 2025. The recent report and map meets the requirements of C.R.S. 34-32-5-116.6. The Operator submitted the required quarterly groundwater monitoring report with the annual report.

### **Reclamation Success:**

Mining operations at the site concluded in 2006. ASCI subsequently operated an inert fill/material recycling facility until 2018, at which point Adams County determined it violated zoning regulations, leading to the cessation of recycling activities. By 2024, ASCI had removed all remaining mining and recycling-related stockpiles in accordance with the County requirements.

According to Mr. Geras, the site was graded to a level agriculture field in the spring of 2024 and seeded. A dirt access road running north to south in the center of the permit area remains for site access, leading to a 2-acre open water pond in the northeast corner.

ASCI began backfilling a 10-acre open groundwater pond in the northeast corner in the summer of 2022 to reduce its size to 2-acres, in accordance with the approved reclamation plan in Technical Revision 4 approved in July 2022. The pond is proposed to be clay lined. However, on August 30, 2022, the landowner obtained a cease-and-desist notice citing issues over water rights for the pond. According to Mr. Geras, ongoing litigation regarding the pond must be resolved before ASCI can complete the reclamation plan or ASCI will be required to submit a Technical Revision for any changes to the final reclamation plan.

**The Division noted the presence of a concrete truck scale remnant near the entrance, which requires demolition and reclamation in accordance with the approved plan.** The site entrance, consisting of a gravel parking area, existing shop, and office buildings, is approved to remain for future agriculture use. The rest of the site will be graded, topsoiled, and revegetated with grasses as approved.

A berm of topsoil/overburden is situated along the eastern side of the permit area. **The current reclamation plan does not show any berms remaining around the perimeter. The operator must either utilize this material for reclamation or secure approval from both the County and DRMS to leave the berms in place.**

### **Hydrologic Balance**

The Phase I French drain was installed in two sections. Water from east of the site flows into the drain that runs along the eastern edge of the permit boundary and discharges into the south end of the open groundwater pond on Mr. Crom's property. Water flows out of the northern side of the pond into a French drain that discharges into the South Platte River in the northwestern corner of the permit area. The Division

observed the standpipe and outlet discharge point on the north end of the permit area. Water was flowing from the French drain into the South Platte River and a water was observed in the unlined pond. The French drain around the pond is still incomplete, pending resolution of the lawsuit with the landowner. Mr. Geras confirmed the French drain receives regular clean out maintenance.

The operator continues to sample four monitoring wells bi-monthly for groundwater levels. The data is submitted to the Division with the annual report.

#### Revegetation:

In 2024, 55 acres were graded and reseeded, according to the annual report and operator statements to the Division. While some desired grasses were observed in reclaimed areas (western wheatgrass), most of the site is covered in annual weeds. The operator must closely monitor revegetation and reseed and mulch as needed to ensure successful growth.

The two-acre open water pond area has not been graded or seeded, with bare ground visible where backfilling occurred in 2022. Dense vegetation, primarily annual weeds, was observed around the pond, with a few patches of Canada thistles along the eastern side. The north end of the permit area has little vegetation growing and does not appear to have been topsoiled or seeded.

A berm of topsoil/overburden is situated along the eastern side of the permit area. The current reclamation plan does not show any berms remaining around the perimeter. The operator must either utilize this material for reclamation or secure approval from both the County and DRMS to leave the berms in place.

**The Division reminds the operator to follow the approved topsoiling (place 6-12 inches on all disturbed level areas and 3:1 slopes above the expected high waterline on the pond) and the seeding requirements for the site as approved in Amendment in 2003. Additionally, Technical Revision 2, approved in 2014, committed ASCI to monitoring all permit boundary areas for weed infestation and controlling state-listed noxious weeds through mowing, tilling before seed fall, or herbicide treatment for small, intense infestations.**

Following the inspection, the operator confirmed the site is scheduled for mowing in the Fall of 2025.

#### Signs and Markers

A mine sign was posted at the mine entrance pursuant to Rule 3.1.12. Fencing and t-posts mark the boundaries.

#### Financial Warranty:

The Division currently holds a reclamation bond in the amount of \$678,169.00. The Division reviewed the bond estimate based on the remaining reclamation liability and determined the bond is adequate to complete reclamation of the site.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: Looking southwest across the graded and seeded area on the south end of the permit area. Annual weeds dominate here.



Photo 2: Looking northwest across the graded and seeded area in the middle of the permit area. Annual weeds dominate here.





Photo 3: Close-up view of the reestablished vegetation in the center of the reclaimed area. Some wheatgrass plants observed here near the access road.



Photo 4: Looking west at the revegetation on the north end along the river side. Mostly annual weeds observed here.





Photo 5: Looking at the existing shop near the entrance on the south end. The shop is approved to remain for future agricultural use.



Photo 6: Looking at the 2-acre open water pond in the northeast portion of the permit area. Dense vegetation surrounds the pond. Some Canada thistle plants observed in this area.





Photo 7: Looking at the area that was backfilled in 2022 adjacent to the neighbors land. Stockpiles of material to use for backfilling and lining remain in this area.



Photo 8: Looking at the area adjacent to the pond on ASCI's property.





Photo 9: Looking at the standpipe for the Phase 1 French drain on the north end of the permit area. This end of the permit area has not been topsoiled or seeded.



Photo 10: Looking at the outlet for the French drain adjacent to the South Platte River in the northwest corner of the permit area.





Photo 11: Looking at a monitoring well in the northern end of the permit area, adjacent to the South Platte River.



Photo 12: Looking at a monitoring well in the southeast end of the permit area.





Photo 13: Looking south at the access road that runs through the center of the site.



Photo 14: Looking at the mine sign posted at the entrance to the site.



**Inspection Contact Address**

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