



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: Dill Pit	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-2009-077	MINERAL: Borrow material for construction, sand	COUNTY: Elbert
INSPECTION TYPE: Preoperation Inspection	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: October 15, 2025	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Tracy and Ed Grimes	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Ed Grimes	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Preoperation Inspection	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: Complete Bond	BOND AMOUNT: \$48,322.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: None	
INSPECTOR(S): Ursula Armstrong	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: October 27, 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>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>N</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>Y</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>Y</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>Y</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

The Dill Pit (Permit No. M-2009-077), operated by Tracy and Ed Grimes, was inspected by Ursula Armstrong of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) on October 15, 2025. The operator was represented by Ed Grimes during the inspection. The inspection was conducted as a pre-operational inspection in response to the permit amendment application (AM-2) submitted by the operator on July 31, 2025 and filed with the Division on August 26, 2025. The site is located approximately 6 miles southwest of Limon, CO. The site is accessed from the north off of Hwy 24 via an access road through the landowner's property. **Photos 1-17** taken during the inspection are included with this report.

This is a 112c operation permitted for 19.4 acres, including the 18.2 acre mining area and the 1.2 acre access road. The Division estimates approximately 17 acres have been disturbed thus far. The pit has been mined generally from north to south and is approximately 20 feet deep. The current mine plan states that slopes will be mined at 3H:1V; slopes around the pit range between 2H:1V to 3H:1V. The current operation includes the proposed Phases 1 and 2. Mining is done around an existing ephemeral drainage which, when carrying water, flows southwest to northeast across the permit area. The pit floor is to be maintained no lower than the elevation of the drainage channel at all times. Reclamation has not yet started at this site. The approved reclamation plan includes grading all disturbed slopes to 3H:1V, except for the western pit wall, which will be graded to 4H:1V. The pit floor will be graded at an approximate 1% grade sloping away from the toe of the slopes, toward the intersected drainage. This will ensure no ponding of rain or snow runoff and prevent excessive site erosion. Any compacted areas (e.g., pit floor, stockpile areas, internal haul roads) will need to be ripped prior to replacing topsoil. On February 24, 2017, the Division approved the operator's request (AD-1) to import up to 7,000 cubic yards of silty clay to the site to place on graded slopes prior to replacing topsoil. The operator believes placing the silty clay on top of the sand will help stabilize the topsoil while the slopes are undergoing revegetation. The site will have topsoil replaced over all disturbed areas anywhere from 3 to 6 inches deep. The seedbed will be scarified and then drilled or broadcast seeded, depending on the slope gradient. Revegetation will include a seed mix of native grasses and forbs. Fertilizer and mulch will be used for revegetation. The pit floor and the flatter graded western pit wall. The Division is already bonded for the Phase 1 and 2 areas.

The submitted AM-2 is requesting to add 24.88 acres (which includes 0.16 acres for the access road extension) to the existing 19.4 acres for a total of approximately 44.28 acres. AM-2 proposes 5 new phases (Phases 3-7) to include the remaining area in the unmined pit (the southeast area of the current operation). Phase 1 of the operation has approximately 1 acre remaining to be mined before completion and Phase 2 has been mined out. AM-2 proposes mining will begin along the western edge of the Phase 3 area which is approximately 4.72 acres and would take approximately 3.2 years to mine. Mining would then proceed to the east into the Phase 4 area which is approximately 4.28 acres. Once Phase 4 is completed, then Phases 5-7 would be mined in order of the proposed phasing. The proposed Phases 3-7 will be reclaimed in a similar fashion as the current mined areas under the existing permit. Final slopes will be graded to 3H:1V and topsoil depths will be 6-8 inches in Phase 3-5 and Phases 6 and 7 will use in-place material as it is suitable as plant growth material. The post mining land use is rangeland. The proposed phases will be revegetated with a mixture of blue grama, prairie sandreed, sand bluestem, Western wheatgrass, little bluestem, sideoats grama, and purple prairie clover. The main access road will remain after reclamation for continued use by the landowner.

At the time of the inspection, the weather was clear and windy. The site was not active during the inspection. A permit sign was posted at the entrance to the access road, and the amendment notice was clearly posted as required by Rule 3.1.12. The access road was in great condition, and the current mine permit boundary was marked with metal T-posts in each corner, and a fence marks the western boundary. All the proposed Phases 3-7 are marked out with either T-posts or wooden stacks, both with yellow flagging. A few stockpiles of mined

material was observed on the current pit floor and some mining equipment was present at the time of inspection. Topsoil is stockpiled around the pit on top of the highwalls and the stockpiles are stable. Mining had occurred earlier in the year and the operation is hauling product off site according to demand in the local area. No major erosion features were observed. No additional structures were found within the existing mine area, the proposed Phases 3-7 or within 200 feet of the site. Vegetation throughout the site consists primarily of native grasses, forbs, and shrubs. Small patches of cheatgrass were found in and around the permit area, but no other state-listed noxious weeds were identified. The operator should continue to monitor these weeds and implement the approved weed management plan as appropriate, in accordance with Rule 3.1.10(6).

No comments or objections to AM-2 were received within the public comment period that closed on October 15, 2025. The decision date for AM-2 is currently set for November 24, 2025. The Division will need to calculate the required financial warranty for the proposed AM-2 after the applicant has supplied the additional information and clarification requested in the Division's October 27, 2025 adequacy review #1 letter.

This concludes the report.

Any questions or comments regarding this inspection report should be forwarded to Ursula Armstrong at the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203, via telephone at (720)793-3031, or email ursula.armstrong@state.co.us.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. Mine identification sign at entrance.



Photo 2. AM-2 notice posted at entrance.



Photo 3. Southeast corner of the proposed Phase 4 area, looking northeast.



Photo 4. Northwest corner of the proposed Phase 5 area, looking northwest.



Photo 5. Looking north at the area outside of the proposed Phase 3 boundary.



Photo 6. Looking west at the northeast corner of the proposed Phase 3 boundary.



Photo 7. Looking southwest across the proposed Phase 3 area.



Photo 8. Looking southwest at the northwest corner of the proposed Phase 3 boundary.



Photo 9. Looking south at the southeast corner of the proposed Phase 3 boundary. The access road is just south of the marker.



Photo 10. Looking south at the northeast corner of the proposed Phase 6 boundary. The operators own this fence line.



Photo 11. Looking southwest across the proposed Phase 6 and 7 areas.



Photo 12. Looking north across the proposed Phase 6 and 7 areas.



Photo 13. Looking west at the remaining 1 acre of mining left in Phase 1. The marker identifies the southeast corner of the existing boundary.



Photo 14. Looking north across the proposed Phase 6 area, just to the east of the existing boundary.



Photo 15. Looking southeast at the proposed Phase 6 area. The operator owns the fence line.



Photo 16. Looking south at the active pit area.



Photo 17. Looking north across the proposed Phase 3 area.

Inspection Contact Address

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CC: Bruce Humphries, Regulatory Permits Management, Inc.
Jared Ebert, DRMS