



STATE OF
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

DRMS Inspection Report Related to AR-05 Application for Home Office

1 message

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Thu, Dec 11, 2025 at 2:38 PM

To: Julie Mikulas <Julie.Mikulas@martinmarietta.com>, Scott Benton <bentonwi@co.larimer.co.us>

Cc: Amy Eschberger - DNR <amy.eschberger@state.co.us>

Hello, Julie and Scott -

Please find attached my inspection report from the inspection at the Home Office Mine (DRMS permit M-1977-439) on November 13, 2025.

Julie, if you choose to withdraw the AR-05 application, please do so by the end of next week. You can just send me an email stating your desire to withdraw it.

Thank you,
Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Program



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[DRMS inspection report_M1977439_11December2025_with map.pdf](#)
3677K



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: Home Office Mine	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1977-439	MINERAL: Sand and gravel	COUNTY: Larimer
INSPECTION TYPE: Surety Release Inspection	WEATHER: Clear	INSP. DATE: November 13, 2025	INSP. TIME: 14:30
OPERATOR: Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Julie Mikulas, Nathan Strack, Travis Newman	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112c - Construction Regular Operation	

REASON FOR INSPECTION: Surety Release Requested	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$4,894,870.00
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: Larimer County
INSPECTOR(S): Robert Zuber, P.E.	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: December 11, 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: Reclamation Plan

PROBLEM #1: The current reclamation plan and map need to be updated and clarified pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-116. The operator must revise the reclamation plan and map, Exhibits E and F, to clearly show where roads will be permanent at the site.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: The operator shall submit a Technical Revision, with the required \$216 revision fee, to update and clarify the current approved reclamation plan and map to reflect existing and proposed activities by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 2/09/2026

INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation

PROBLEM #2: There are State-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Rule 3.1.10(6).

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done by the corrective action date.

CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 2/09/26

INTRODUCTION

The Home Office Mine (Permit No. M-1977-439) is located approximately one mile north of Fort Collins in Larimer County, Colorado. It is operated by Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. (MMM), and access to the site is off of North Taft Hill Road. It is a 112c operation permitted for 364.88 acres to mine sand and gravel for construction use.

On September 24, 2025, MMM submitted an acreage reduction request (AR-05) for a portion of the permit. There are two areas at the Home Office Mine that are the subject of AR-05: Area G-I, at the northeast corner of the permit area, and Area G-II, which is southwest of G-I. Both areas include lined reservoirs and the reclaimed areas around the reservoirs. Please see the map attached to this report, which illustrates the locations of the two reservoirs. (In this report, the words "reservoir" and "pond" are used interchangeably.) The total area of the AR-05 request is 88.48 acres.

The inspection related to AR-05 was conducted by Rob Zuber of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) on November 13, 2025. Other participants included staff from MMM (Julie Mikulas, Nathan Strack, and Travis Newman) and from the Larimer County Community Development Division (Scott Benton and Jared Seay). The weather was warm and clear. The ground was dry.

OBSERVATIONS

Some general observations from both areas:

- Unreclaimed dirt roads were in place around the perimeter of the ponds. It does not appear that these are listed in the approved Reclamation Plan. No roads are shown on the Reclamation Plan Maps in Exhibit F. Thus, a Technical Revision is needed to address leaving these roads for reclamation. (Note that the Division understands the maps submitted with AM-04 in December 2021 are the current versions.) The text in Exhibit E should also be updated as needed, to describe the roads and to clearly indicate they will be permanent structures.
- No erosion was observed at any location, and the vegetation cover was generally good.
- Above the slopes of the ponds, on reclaimed flat areas, the predominant vegetation species is alfalfa, with some grasses. This is problematic, because it appears that this species is not in the approved seed mix for these areas. Also, in many locations, a near monoculture exists. The operator is reminded of Rule 3.1.10(1), which states "In those areas where revegetation is part of the Reclamation Plan, land shall be revegetated in such a way as to establish a diverse, effective, and long-lasting vegetative cover that is capable of self-regeneration without continued dependence on irrigation, soil amendments or fertilizer, and is at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of the surrounding area."
- The Division recommends the operator seed the disturbed areas around the reservoirs with the approved seed mixture as soon as practicable.
- The slopes of the ponds appeared to be in compliance with the approved grading plan (4H:1V or flatter) at all observed locations.
- On the slopes of the ponds, the vegetation included desirable species such as cattails and grasses and less desirable species such as kochia and horse weed. Also, Canada thistle, Russian olive trees, and

tamarisk were observed; these are all State-listed noxious weed species (B-list).

- It appears that the operator is mowing the site too much and possibly preventing the spread of desirable species.
- As-built drawings should be submitted to the Division for the two lined reservoirs. This can be done via the same Technical Revision required above. The drawings should include a signature of a P.E. and should not include language as if they are plans, rather than the required as-builts. That is, the verb tense in notes should indicate that the reservoirs have been constructed.
- The currently approved Exhibit G states that groundwater monitoring will continue until DRMS releases the bond. In the future, if the Division releases a portion of the permit area that includes groundwater monitoring, the monitoring program must be revised with a Technical Revision.

Some particular observations for each of the ponds include the following:

Area G-II, west pond of AR-05

- In the southeast corner of this area, the pond extends beyond the area designated in the AR-05 application approximately 10 – 15 feet (see map below). Julie Mikulas stated that the acreage value in the application (88.48 acres) includes the area south of the pond, and the issue is solely with the map, not with the acreage value. This mistake should be corrected in any future release requests submitted for this area.
- Redstem filaree, a State-listed noxious weed species (C-list), was observed in many locations, especially on the south and east sides of the west pond (Area G-II).

Area G-I, east pond of AR-05

- Near the eastern permit boundary, in the eastern part of Area G-I, there are more grasses than observed in the other flat areas within the AR-05 application area. This area contains a more diverse number of plant species, and the reclamation has been more successful.

CONCLUSIONS

The Division cannot approve AR-05 because of the issues noted above. The Division believes that the revegetation is not diverse, and the prevalence of alfalfa may not be self-regenerating. Therefore, the reclamation does not meet the requirement of Rule 3.1.10(1).

If the operator does not withdraw the AR-05 application (by email or letter) by December 19, 2025, the request will be denied.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1. West pond, SW corner – looking north



Photo 2. West pond, SW corner – looking east



Photo 3. West pond, SE corner – looking northeast at pump (for lagged depletions) and dirt road



Photo 4. West pond, SE corner – looking north



Photo 5. West pond, east side – manhole cover for underdrain



Photo 6. West pond, north side – looking west



Photo 7. East pond, west side - looking north



Photo 8. East pond, northwest corner - looking south



Photo 9. East pond, northwest corner - looking east



Photo 10. East pond, northeast corner - looking south



Photo 11. East pond, east side – more grasses along eastern permit boundary



Photo 12. East pond, south side – looking east

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

The following list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each

(AR) RECORDS-----	<u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY-----	<u>N</u>	(RD) ROADS-----	<u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE-----	<u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING-----	<u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES-----	<u>NA</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>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---	<u>PB</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS-----	<u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---	<u>NA</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP--	<u>PB</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE-----	<u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION---	<u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS-----	<u>NA</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS-----	<u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE-----	<u>Y</u>		

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

Inspection Contact Address

Julie Mikulas
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.
1800 N. Taft Hill Road
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Enclosure: Map for Home Office Mine

CC: Scott Benton, Larimer County
Amy Eschberger, DRMS

Map for Home Office Mine

Dotted line is requested area in AR-05 application

