




**COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY**  
**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> Vader Pit	<b>MINE/PROSPECTING ID#:</b> M-1978-287	<b>MINERAL:</b> Sand and gravel	<b>COUNTY:</b> Gunnison
<b>INSPECTION TYPE:</b> Monitoring	<b>INSPECTOR(S):</b> Dustin M. Czapla	<b>INSP. DATE:</b> August 15, 2012	<b>INSP. TIME:</b> 11:30
<b>OPERATOR:</b> Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies of Mesa County	<b>OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE:</b> Jason Burkey	<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> \$22,928.00
<b>DATE OF COMPLAINT:</b> NA	<b>POST INSP. CONTACTS:</b> None	<b>JOINT INSP. AGENCY:</b> None
<b>WEATHER:</b> Clear	<b>INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE:</b> 	<b>SIGNATURE DATE:</b> August 31, 2012

**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.**

**1. INSPECTION TOPIC: Financial Warranty**

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** The financial warranty is not adequate to reclaim the site in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. This is a failure to maintain the proper financial warranty amount pursuant to C.R.S. 34-32.5-117(4)(b) of the Act.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The operator shall submit adequate financial warranty, as determined by the Division. The Division will be sending a separate surety increase notice to the operator regarding the increase of the financial warranty. The operator will have 60 days from the date on the surety increase notice to post the additional financial warranty.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE:** 10/31/12

**2. INSPECTION TOPIC: Revegetation**

**PROBLEM/POSSIBLE VIOLATION:** There are state-listed noxious weeds present on site. This is a problem for failure to employ weed control methods for state listed noxious weed species within the permitted area, and to reduce the spread of weeds to nearby areas as required by Section 3.1.10 (6) of the rule.

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** Implement approved weed control plan and provide proof to the Division that this has been done. If a weed control plan is not already in place, the operator shall develop a weed control and management plan in accordance with Section 3.1.10 (6) of the Rule. This plan should be developed in

consultation with the county extension agency, or weed control district office and should include specific control measures to be applied, a schedule for when control measures will be applied and a post-treatment monitoring plan. This weed control plan shall be submitted to the Division as a Technical Revision to the approved plan with the appropriate Technical Revision fee of \$216.00 by the corrective action date.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION DUE DATE: 10/01/12**

### OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's (Division) normal monitoring program. Jason Burkey and Brent Kerr, representing the Operator, were present during this inspection. Photographs are included with this report in order to illustrate some of the conditions observed.

The Vader Pit is located approximately four miles east of Gunnison and accessed from Hwy 50. The site is a 112c operation that includes a total of 35.3 permitted acres. The Division currently holds a financial warranty amount of \$22,928.00 for this site. The Division has reviewed the reclamation costs, in order to ensure the financial warranty reflects the actual current cost of fulfilling the requirements of the Reclamation Plan, and determined that the current financial warranty amount is insufficient. The Operator will be notified under separate cover of a financial warranty increase.

Adequate mine identification signage was noted at the northeast entrance to the site.

The affected area was marked by fencing and roads that were clearly visible and adequate to delineate the affected area boundary.

Past mining, in the area north of Tomichi Creek, has created a pond in the northwest part of the permit area. The banks of the pond were well vegetated and appeared stable. The area immediately east of the pond appeared to have been used in the past for stockpiling and/or processing. This area did not appear to have been seeded yet as part of reclamation, although there was considerable volunteer native vegetation becoming established in this area. It did not appear that topsoil has been applied in this area during past reclamation efforts. A significant noxious weed infestation was noted in this area, including plumeless and/or bull thistle and halogeton.

The area south of Tomichi Creek is primarily used by the Operator for stockpiling materials. Active mining or processing was not occurring in this area. Noxious weeds were not noted in this area.

No other problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Dustin Czapla at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Grand Junction Field Office, 101 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Room 301, Grand Junction, Colorado 81501, phone number (970) 243-6299.



## PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Mine identification sign located at northeast entrance to site.



Figure 2: Reclaimed pond in northwest part of permit area.



Figure 3: Reclaimed pond in northwest part of permit area.



Figure 4: Area east of pond. Noxious weeds were noted in this area.



Figure 5: Stockpile area south of Tomichi Creek.



Figure 6: Stockpile area south of Tomichi Creek.

### 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>PB</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>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>NA</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</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>N</u>	(SB) COMPLETE INSP---- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>Y</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>NA</u>

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

### Inspection Contact Address

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