




COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY COAL PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-033 Mine Name: Bear Mine Operator: Bear Coal Company, Inc. Operator Address: Mr Daniel Bear 1326 War Emblem Lane Rock Springs, WY 82901	County: Gunnison Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Revoked Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: NA - Revoked Site
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 10, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 09:30 Inspection End Date: September 10, 2013 Inspection End Time: 13:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts:	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts:	
Inspector(s): Susan L. Burgmaier Sandra L. Brown	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 09/12/2013

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

NA - Air Resource Protection

NA - Availability of Records

R - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

NA - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

R - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

Y - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection of the Bear No. 3 Mine conducted by Sandy Brown and Susan Burgmaier of DRMS. Also present during the inspection were Steve Renner and Jeff Litteral of the DRMS Inactive Mine Reclamation program. The reclamation performance bond for the site has been forfeited, and the Inactive Mine Reclamation program will be overseeing reclamation of the site by a third party contractor. The purpose of the Inactive Mine Reclamation program visit was to become familiar with the site and the reclamation requirements in the approved (and since revoked) mining and reclamation permit.

Weather conditions at the time of the inspection were cool and overcast with brief rain showers and mist. Ground conditions were damp.

BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14 □ Contemporaneous Reclamation 4.14.1; Approximate Original Contour 4.14.2; Highwall Elimination 4.14.1(2)(f); Steep Slopes 4.14.2, 4.27; Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials 4.14.3; Stabilization of Rills and Gullies 4.14.6:

Regraded slopes in the vicinity of the fan and portal benches were stable with no evidence of cracking or slumping, and no erosional features were observed. Some settling has occurred where the conveyor support was buried and subsequently exposed.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Wild turkeys were observed on the site, near the North Fork bridge.

HYDROLOGIC BALANCE - Rule 4.05 □ Drainage Control 4.05.1, 4.05.2, 4.05.3; Siltation Structures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7, 4.05.10; Diversions 4.05.4; Effluent Limits 4.05.2; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Surface Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Drainage – Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

The sedimentation pond was dry. The mine spring was flowing to the treatment pond, which was discharging water to the North Fork of the Gunnison River.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

Reclamation requirements for hydrologic structures include removal of the sediment and treatment pond, and construction of the approved open channel to convey the portal spring water directly to the North Fork of the Gunnison River.

OTHER (SPECIFY):

Steve Renner noticed that steam was escaping at the top of the slide scarp on the west end of the disturbance area, suggesting that the fire in the old workings was still burning. He also observed evidence of venting of heated mine air (roughly 90 degrees Fahrenheit) from the fractured sandstone on the upper portion of the slide scarp.

ROADS – Rule 4.03 ☐ Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3) ☐ Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4) ☐ Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6) ☐ Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

The bridge providing access to the site remains in poor condition and continues to deteriorate. Representatives from the Inactive Mine Reclamation program will arrange for appropriate barriers to vehicular access to prevent injury to persons attempting to cross the bridge.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 ☐ Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Vegetation on the reclaimed slopes on the east end of the portal slope is progressing well. Grasses and forbs have taken hold, and weed infestation is manageable. The revegetation of the facilities yard area is poor and will need to be reseeded. Weeds will need to be treated sitewide, particularly the tamarisk, white top, and thistle.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The slide on the west end of the portal slope appeared to be stable, and has not moved significantly since the initial slide occurred.

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ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**Infraction Number:** CO2013001

Inspection Date: January 9, 2013

Date Issued: January 11, 2013

Primary Topic: Administrative

Secondary Topic: Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

Tertiary Topic:

Description: Failure to abate NOV CV-2012-009, parts A) and B), on or before December 31, 2012.

A) Bear Coal Company, Inc., failed to obtain a valid permit as required by 34-33-101 et seq, the "Colorado Coal Mining Reclamation Act," the applicable regulations, and its Permit though it is under an ongoing obligation to complete reclamation of the mine site. Bear Coal Company, Inc. was previously issued Permit No. C-1981-033, which expired on July 19, 2012, and reclamation has not been completed.

B) Bear Coal Company, Inc., failed to complete reclamation in compliance with the terms of its Permit, the Act, and the Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Coal Mining. Bear Coal Company, Inc., has not: completed final ditch and pond reclamation; established a diverse, effective and permanent vegetative cover; or assumed responsibility for successful revegetation.

Abatement #: 1

Abatement Due Date: 1/25/2013

Abatement Due Extended Date:

Abatement Description: A) Submit a complete permit application to the Division to obtain a valid permit for the completion of reclamation at the mine site under the provisions of 34-33-101 et seq.

Infraction Number: CV2012009

Inspection Date: November 30, 2012

Date Issued: December 17, 2012

Primary Topic: Administrative

Secondary Topic: Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

Tertiary Topic:

Description: A) Bear Coal Company, Inc., failed to obtain a valid permit as required by 34-33-101 et seq, the "Colorado Coal Mining Reclamation Act," the applicable regulations, and its Permit though it is under an ongoing obligation to complete reclamation of the mine site. Bear Coal Company, Inc. was previously issued Permit No. C-1981-033, which expired on July 19, 2012 and reclamation has not been completed.

B) Bear Coal Company, Inc., failed to complete reclamation in compliance with the terms of its Permit, the Act, and the Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for Coal Mining. Bear Coal Company, Inc., has not: completed final ditch and pond reclamation; established a diverse, effective and permanent vegetative cover; or assumed responsibility for successful revegetation.

Abatement #: 1

Abatement Due Date: 12/31/2012

Abatement Due Extended Date:



Abatement Description: A) Submit a complete permit application to the Division to obtain a

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

valid permit for the completion of reclamation at the mine site under the provisions of 34-33-101 et seq.

PHOTOGRAPHS

	<p>Photo 1 Treatment pond</p>
	<p>Photo 2 Slide scarp</p>

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Photo 3
Slide scarp; steam
escaping



Photo 4
Bridge over North Fork of
the Gunnison river

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