



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



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-019 Mine Name: Colowyo Coal Mine Operator: Colowyo Coal Company L.P. Operator Address: Mr. Tony Tennyson 5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641	County: Moffat, Rio Blanco Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: October 24, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 10:30 Inspection End Date: Inspection End Time:	Inspection Type: Aerial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robert D. Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: <i>Robert D. Zuber</i> Signature Date: 10/29/2013

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

R - Backfill & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

N - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

On October 24, 2013 Harry Ranney flew over Colowyo Coal Mine and took several dozen aerial photographs. The weather was clear during the inspection. On October 28 and 29, 2013 Robert Zuber reviewed the photographs.

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:

In the West Pit reclamation, a great deal of grading work has been completed on the large spoil pile (“Hink’s Peak”). No erosion or other problems were seen in the aerial photographs.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

West Taylor Fill and West Pit Fill were observed, and no gullies or other significant problems were seen.

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:

Seven ponds with CDPS outfalls were observed: Prospect, Section 16, Section 28, East Taylor, West Taylor, West Pit, and Work Area. The five large stock tanks in East Pit were also observed: PD1, PD2, EP1, EP2, and NTEP1. No problems were identified with spillways, embankments or other aspects of the ponds.

Several contour ditches were inspected in the East Pit and West Pit areas; none of them were found to have blowouts.

The following ditches were inspected: Prospect Ditch, Final East Pit Ditch, North Tributary East Pit Ditch, South Collection Ditch, Trib. D, Trib. F, Section 28 Ditch, Section 29 Ditch, Taylor Tributary Ditch, East Taylor Ditch,

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Taylor Ditch, West Taylor Fill side ditches, and the West Pit Fill side ditch. All of the ditches were found to be stable.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

In general, the Colowyo Mine was found to be in compliance.

Operations in the pits were minimal at the time of the inspection. Highwall mining is planned to begin in South Taylor Pit in the near future.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

East Pit and West Pit reclamation were found to be in good shape.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

In general, the main facilities area (including the Wash Bay Pond and other ponds), the South Taylor Ready Line, and the Gossard Loadout were found to be in good condition. Detailed photographs of these areas were not taken.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06 □ Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Topsoil stockpiles 16D, 18, 16I, and 15A were observed and no problems were identified.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were taken as a result of this inspection, and none are pending.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



East Pit reclamation with ditches and stock tanks



**Section 28 Ditch and eastern edge of South Taylor Pit
(ditch and slump in lower left portion of photo)**

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South Taylor Pit, looking north



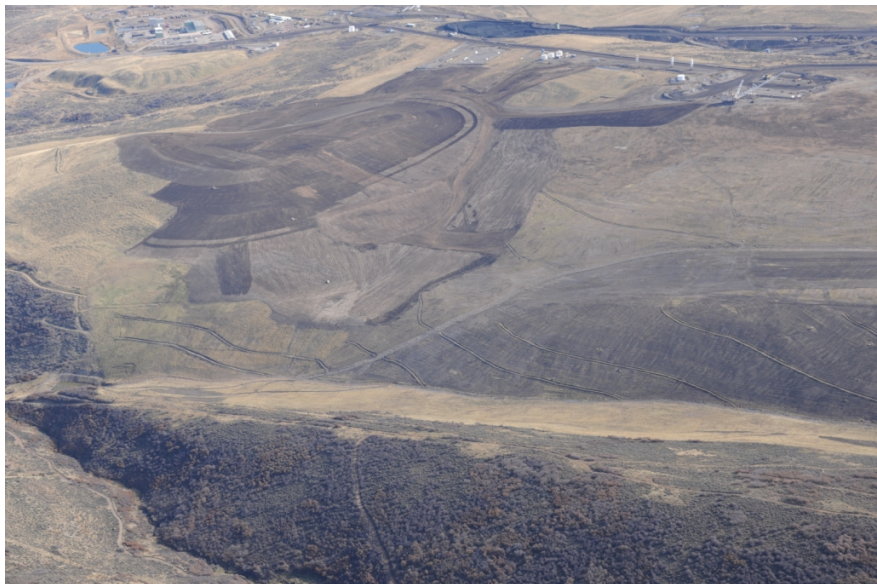
South Taylor Pit, looking east

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West Taylor Fill



Spoil grading in West Pit

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Main facilities area, looking east

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