




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



## PERMIT INFORMATION

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1982-057 <b>Mine Name:</b> Seneca II-W Mine <b>Operator:</b> Seneca Coal Company, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Roy Karo 37796 Routt County Road 53 P.O. Box 670 Hayden, CO 81639	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Federal
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)	

## INSPECTION INFORMATION

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> October 22, 2013 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 09:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> October 24, 2013 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 10:00		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Janet H. Binns  Jared L. Ebert	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   10/30/2013		<b>Signature Date:</b>

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

Y - Air Resource Protection	R - Roads
R - Availability of Records	R - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	R - Revegetation
NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	NA - Subsidence
NA - Explosives	R - Slides and Other Damage
Y - Fish & Wildlife	Y - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	Y - Signs and Markers
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	NA - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Other	NA - Special Categories Of Mining
NA - Processing Waste	Y - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a complete inspection conducted by Janet Binns and Jared Ebert of DRMS. The weather was cool in the morning warming to mild temperatures in the afternoon. The area had received precipitation 2 days prior to the inspection so the site was moist, but not wet or snow covered.

The inspection initiated at the HGLO office. The inspectors notified Roy Karo that we would be on the mine site. No Seneca Coal Company representatives accompanied the inspection.

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):**

Records were verified at the PSCM office on 10/24/2013. Hydrologic records were verified at the HGLO office.

**BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14** □ 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:

SCC had completed repairs to drainages and slope stabilization following slides that occurred in 2012.

Rilling was noted alongside Ridgeline Access Road southwest of stock tank T-20. This area needs some maintenance. The rills are cutting back into the reclaimed slope. (West side of road between PM-15 and PM-14)

**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; 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:

Stock tank T-24 held no water. No concerns were noted with this structure.

Pond 5 has a perennial spring at the base of the embankment. The flow from this spring flows through the Pond 5 flume. Pond 5 flume requires clean out.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

Stock Pond T-22 had filled with sediment and vegetation, cattails (Photo 1). A small trickle of water was flowing through this stock tank. Jared noted that no permanent impoundment demonstration had been found for this stock tank yet.

T-18 was holding a pool of water. No problems were noted with this stock tank.

005 Gulch was in good condition and did not exhibit signs of erosion.

SCC has cut a new contour furrow from the Ridge Line Access road over to drainage 005-E1. (Photos 3 & 4) Although this is an effective method to reduce gully formation on the slope, this feature is not shown on a map. SCC needs to permit this feature and depict it on an appropriate map. Repaired gully should be seeded if not completed already.

Gully repair upslope from Culvert PM3 furrow is undercutting on the west side of the TRM. SCC needs to maintain this fabric to keep the runoff from undercutting the repair. (Photo 6)

In the South Extension area a gully is forming along PM2-C drainage. This gully measured 8 to 12 inches deep. It initiates near the top of the slope by LU-5 road by the interface of the reclaimed slope and the undisturbed area (Photo 8)

Another Gully was initiating on the south side of PM-2 slump, and east of LU-5. This location is near drainage PM2-D. Repairs are needed to keep this gully from enlarging. Additional gullies were observed near Culvert PM-2.

PM-1 drainage area, the upper surge tank needs the PVC riser repaired on the lower pipe. Pond 16 and Pond 17 were both holding water. No problems were identified with either pond.

#### Culverts:

PM-15 outlet is approximately 1/2 full of sediment and requires clean out prior to the winter months.

PM-3 outfall is blocked and requires clean out. (Photo 2)

PM-1 outfall is undercutting the TRM. This steep outfall slope requires repair. A gully is beginning to form under the TRM.

ROADS – Rule 4.03 □ 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):

LU-1A and LU-1 were in good condition.

Roads throughout the permit area were maintained. The inspectors were unable to drive the portion of roadway east of the permit area between LU-4 and LU-5 due to slick conditions.

#### RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

Repairs resulting from 2012 landslide damage appear to be completed. Drainage reconstruction was done and re-disturbed areas graded, topsoiled and seeded.

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Some gullies remain in the reclaimed areas that need mitigation due to size or location. Overall, reclamation throughout the mine site looks good, with some regular maintenance continuing to be needed.

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 □ Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

Vegetation throughout the site looked very good. Few noxious weeds were noted. Occasionally, Canada thistle and Houndstongue were observed, but not in concentrations that would be considered infestations.

Roy Karo had previously e-mailed photo documentation of seeding of repairs at the Seneca II West mine to the Division on October 9, 2013.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED NA**

**OTHER (SPECIFY) NA**

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

No Enforcement actions are currently in process, nor are any issued as a result of this inspection.

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## PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Embankment and spillway T-22



Photo 2: Culvert PM-3 outlet needs clean out



Photo 3: Recent Contour furrow east of T-20



Photo 4: Recent contour furrow east of T-20

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Photo 5: Gully repair downslope from Recent contour furrow construction



Photo 6: side cutting along TRM in gully repair upslope from PM-3 culvert



Photo 7: Reclamation PM-3 drainage



Photo 8: Gully formation north of PM-3 drainage



Photo 9: Looking south across South expansion area.

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**Availability of Records:**

<b>PERMIT RECORDS</b>		<b>HYDROLOGIC RECORDS</b>	
DRMS Permit	X Exp 12/31/15	NPDES Permit	**Exp 10/31/2011 ren. app 4/2011, indef. Ext. 10/11
Permit Application w/Revisions	@Sage Creek Office	NPDES Records	X 2Q Q 2013
Findings Document	MT6 6/26/13	Stormwater Management Plan	Updated Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2013
Insurance Certificate	Exp 11/1/2013	SPCC Plan	December 15, 2010
Bond Document	SB \$6,225,552.61*	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release	X SL3		NA
Documents/Findings		State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Air Emission Permits	NA	Quarterly Pond Inspections	3rd 1/4 2013 (9/9/13)
County Special Use Permits	X 2014	Annual Hydrology Reports	2012
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA	• Ground Water Monitoring	Conducted 9/10/2013
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	X
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	X
Rill & Gully Survey	5/29/2013	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2012	• Mine Inflow Study	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	PAP	• Water Consumption Records	Nov 2012
Annual Reclamation Reports	2012	Well Permits	X Aug 1990
Midterm Review Documents	MT6 6/26/13		
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru 8/12/2013		
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	Need to file Sept.2013 rpts.	<b>BLASTING RECORDS</b>	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	1994	Blasting Publication	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA	Blasting Records (3 years)	NA (last blast Jan '06)
Reclamation Cost Estimate	MT6 6/26/13	ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
<b>CERTIFICATIONS</b>		Blasting Variances	PAP
Pond Certifications	PAP Tab 13	Pre-Blast Surveys	PAP
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	X Jan 2013		
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA	<b>ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)</b>	
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	PAP Tab 13		
Access Road Certifications	PAP Tab 13		

COMMENTS: Pending revisions available: SL4, SL5

\*TR81 requesting Bond Reduction in response to MT6

\*\*SCC requested modification 8/22/2013

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