




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



## PERMIT INFORMATION

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1996-084 <b>Mine Name:</b> Lorencito Canyon Mine <b>Operator:</b> New Elk Coal Company, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Ron Thompson 12250 Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	<b>County:</b> Las Animas <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>	
<b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)	

## INSPECTION INFORMATION

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> December 18, 2013 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 11:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> December 18, 2013 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:30	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Aerial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Cloudy
<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>  Leigh D. Simmons  Harry B. Ranney	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  December 27, 2013

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Roads

N - Availability of Records

N - Reclamation Success

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Revegetation

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Subsidence

N - Explosives

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

N - Support Facilities On-site

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Signs and Markers

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Other

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Processing Waste

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was an aerial inspection. Pictures were taken by Harry Ranney of Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (the Division) during a flight on December 18, 2013. Conditions were overcast, but the air was clear. A little snow was on the ground on shaded northerly aspects.

Several permitting actions are in progress, these are detailed under the heading GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE.

On November 26, 2013, Cline Mining announced that they had received the 90-day notice of resignation of Mark Haywood as President, CEO and director. Doug Blackburn has been hired by Cline Mining to act as General Manager of New Elk Coal Company (NECC). Mr Blackburn is employed as a contractor, rather than a permanent employee of either company.

**EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09**

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Fills 7, 8 and 9 were stable and well vegetated. There was no evidence of any major erosion on the fills.

**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:

Ponds 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 9a were all holding water. No problems were evident with any of the ponds from the aerial photographs. Whilst the aerial photographs do not allow a detailed inspection of ditches or culverts, they do provide a unique perspective from which to observe erosive rills and gullies, made particularly clear in places thanks to the contrast provided by the old snow. Gullies were visible on the north side of the “nob”, around the shrub plot, to the north of the shrub plot and in the drainage above pond 6. NECC should follow through with plans to repair and reseed the damaged areas in early 2014.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

At present two permitting actions are progress:

- RN3 - The proposed decision due date has been extended to December 31, 2013. The Division is waiting on a response from NECC regarding inconsistencies resulting from a query of the AVS database.
- TR18 - The proposed decision due date has been extended to June 1, 2014. The Division is awaiting a response to the adequacy letter of May 29, 2013.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED**

N/A

**OTHER (SPECIFY)**

N/A

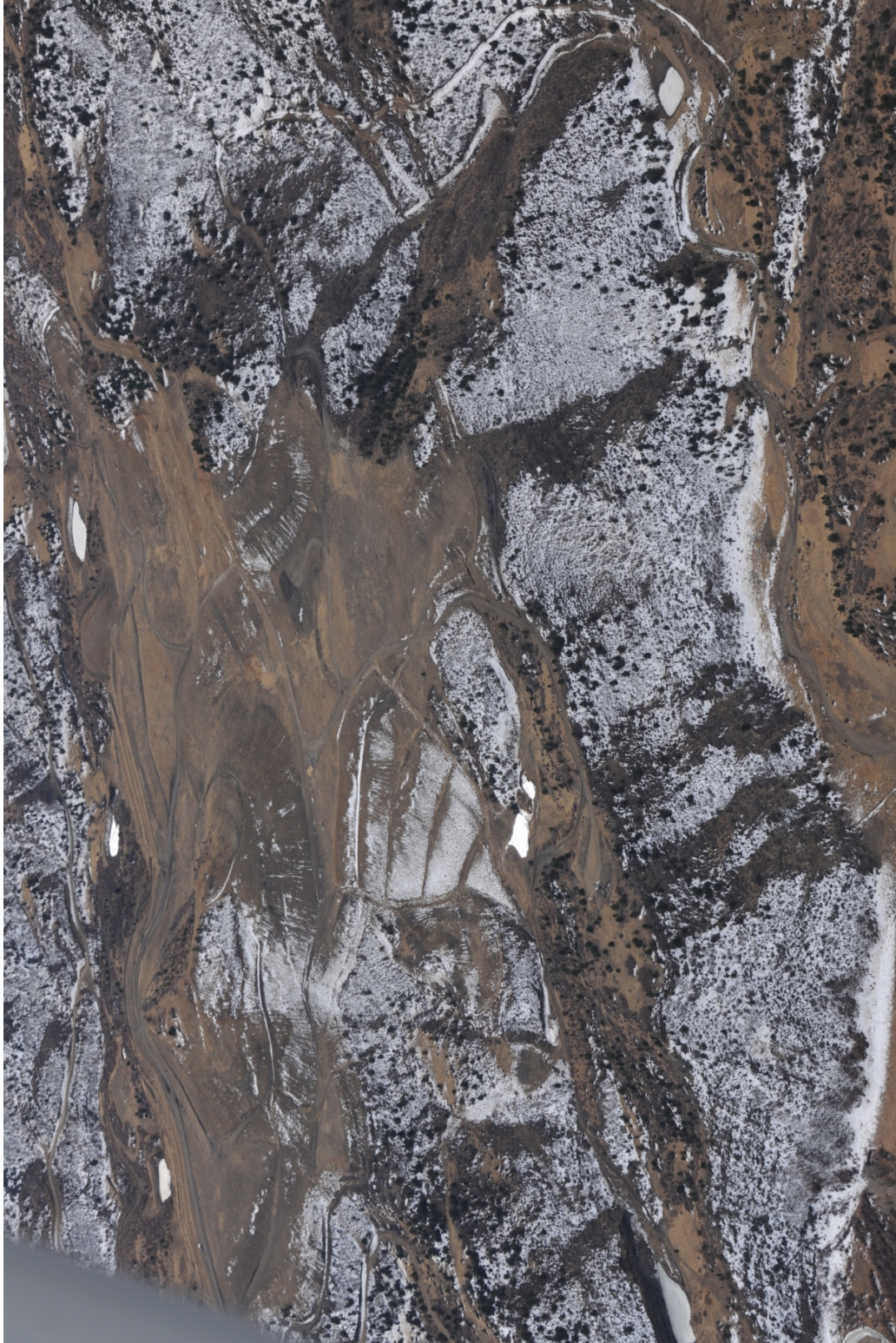
**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

No enforcement actions are in progress and none are necessary as a result of this inspection.

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



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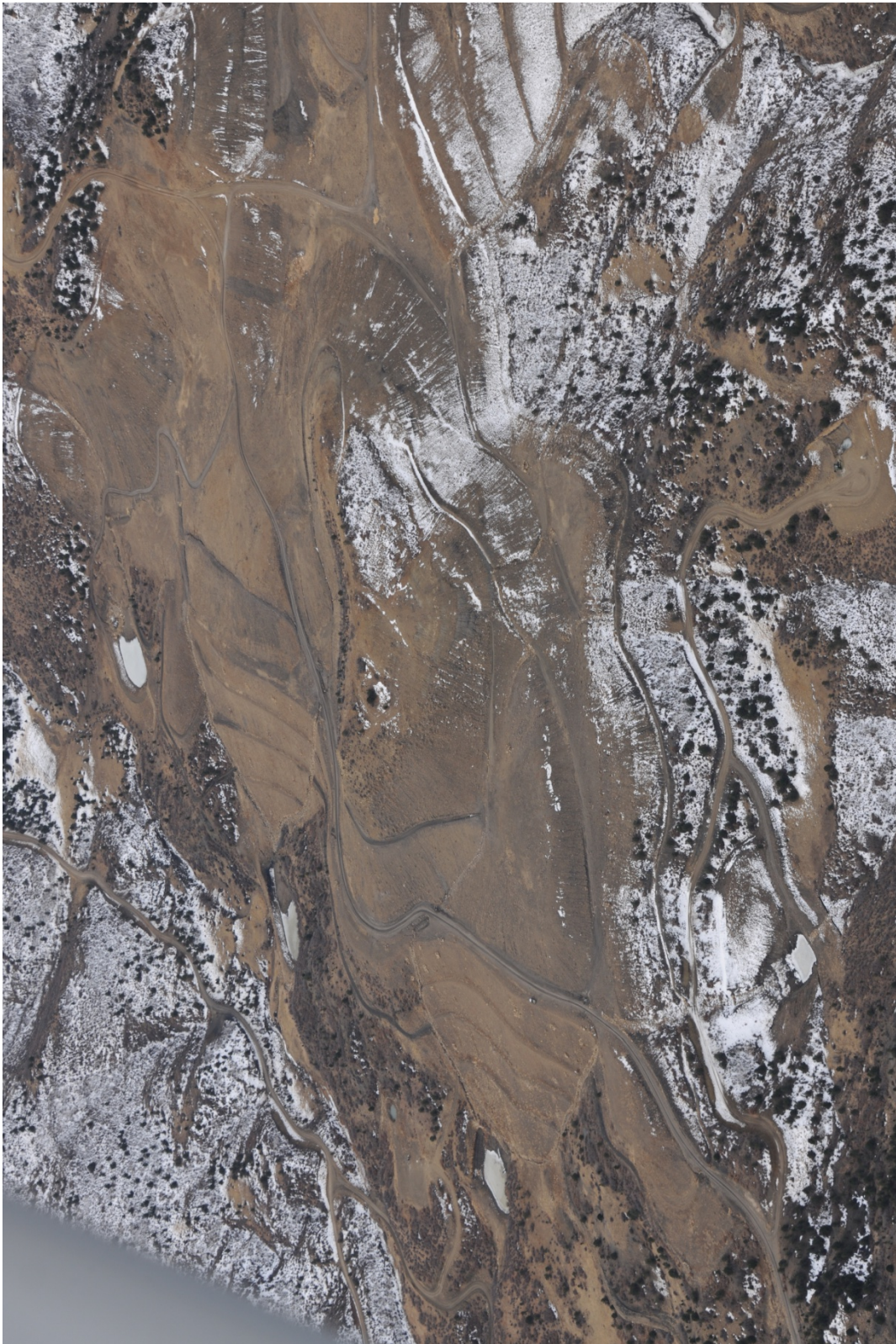




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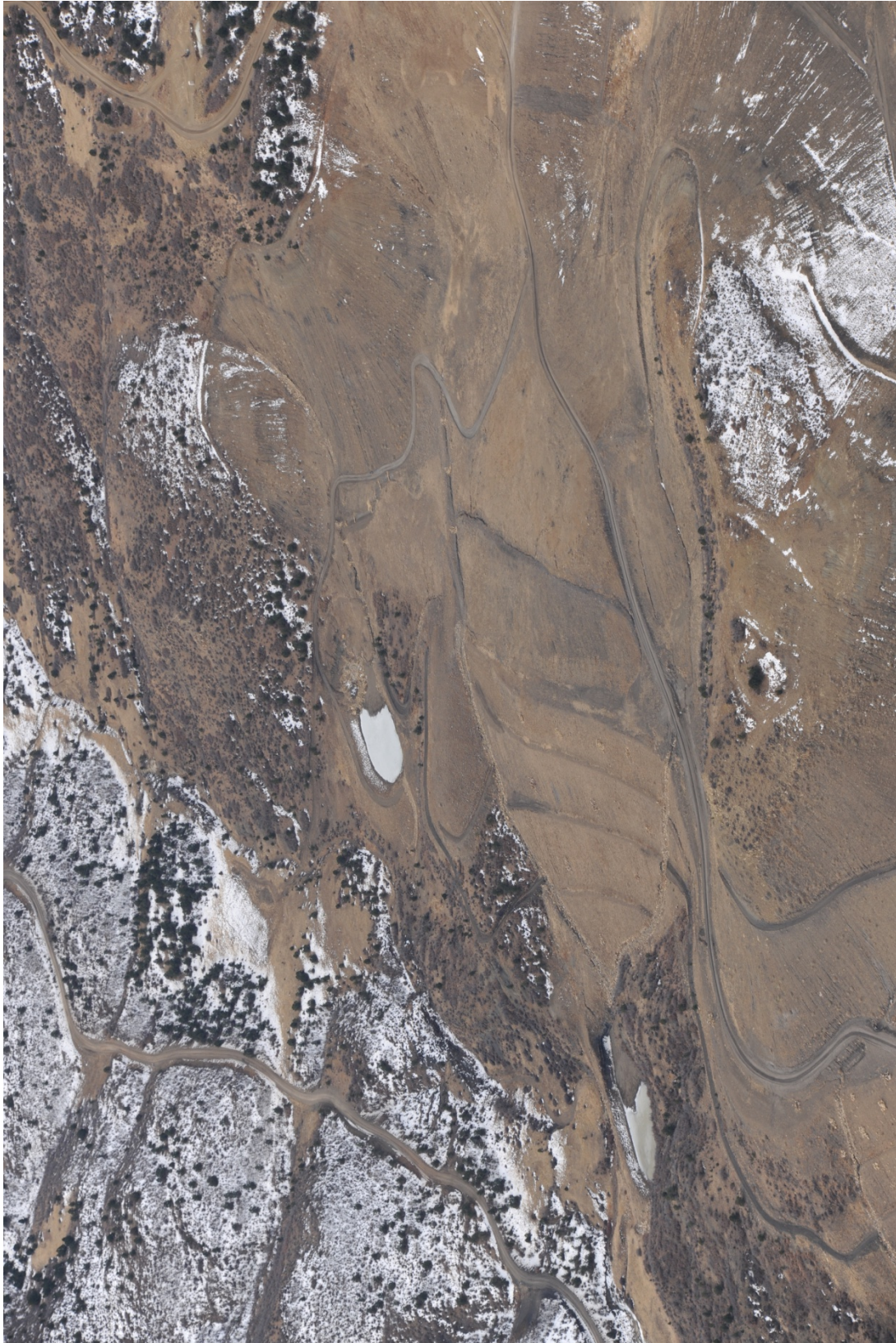




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