




COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-008 Mine Name: New Horizon Mine Operator: Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Tony Tennyson 5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641	County: Montrose Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Frank Ferris and Tom Fry
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: March 27, 2017 Inspection Start Time: 14:30 Inspection End Date: March 29, 2017 Inspection End Time: 11:00		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): Brock F. Bowles	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: April 4, 2017		

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

R - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection of the New Horizon Mine conducted by Brock Bowles of the Colorado Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety. Frank Ferris and Tom Fry of Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation were present for the entire inspection. The weather conditions were overcast with occasional rain showers. Some areas of the mine were inaccessible due to muddy/slippy conditions. The temperature was approximately 50F and the ground was damp/muddy.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were checked after the ground inspection. All required records were on file and available for review at the mine office. No problems were noted with the records review. Please see the availability of records at the end of this report.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

An otter was seen in pond 7 in the cattails on the south east corner.

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:

Pond 7 contained water but was not discharging (photo 1).

Pond 9 did not contain water.

Pond 12 was inaccessible due to wet soil conditions.

Pond 13 contained water and was discharging as was the trench drain. The emergency spillway was clear of obstructions. The embankment was recently cleared of vegetation (photo 2).

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

Pond 16 did not contain water. The inlet structures were in good condition (photo 3). The emergency spillway was clear of obstructions.

Pond 18 did not contain water. Fill was added to ditch C4A to prevent water from ponding in the ditch (photo 4). The emergency spillway was free of obstructions. Culverts C175 and C176 were unobstructed.

The weeds around culvert 118 were recently burned. Culverts 118-124 were clear of obstructions.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The diesel fuel storage tank was disassembled and prepared to be removed as it is no longer needed at the NH2 facilities area (photo 5).

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 former northeast haul road and former topsoil stockpiles F and G were not inspected due to damp soil conditions.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The permit boundary signs were in place around the pond 7 outfall, by ponds 8, 9, 13, 16 and 18, the facilities area and irrigated pasture reference area.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

The ring ditches and sediment traps were in place around the multiple piles of stockpile 12 (photo 6).

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Pond 7 Discharge Structure



Photo 2 – Pond 13 Embankment



Photo 3 – Pond 16



Photo 4 – Ditch C4A



Photo 5 – Diesel Tank Disassembled



Photo 6 – Ring Ditch with Sediment Trap

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	X – 2018
Permit Application w/Revisions	X
Findings Document	X
Insurance Certificate	X – 8/2017
Bond Document	X
Phased Bond Release	X – SL18
Documents/Findings	
Air Emission Permits	X
County Special Use Permits	X
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	X
Specific Variance Approvals	X
Annual Reclamation Reports	X – 2016
Midterm Review Documents	X – MT7
DRMS/OSM Inspection	X
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	X – SO2
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	X – MT7
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	X
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	X - 2016
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	NA
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	X
NPDES Records	X
Stormwater Management Plan	X
SPCC Plan	X
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Quarterly Pond Inspections	X – 1 ST 2017
Annual Hydrology Reports	X
• Ground Water Monitoring	X
• Surface Water Monitoring	X
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	X
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	X
• Water Consumption Records	X
Well Permits	X

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	X

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS:

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