



PERMIT INFORMATION

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

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: April 27, 2017 Inspection Start Time: 13:40 Inspection End Date: Inspection End Time:	Inspection Type: Coal Partial 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: 5/1/2017

Inspection Topic Summary

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

NA - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

N - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS and Vince Massarotti of NECC on April 27, 2017. The weather was mostly clear and windy. The ground was clear of snow and mostly dry.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Fills 7, 8, and 9 were inspected, and all were generally in good condition. No large bare areas or weed patches were seen, and some new vegetation is present on the south-facing fills (7 and 9). There were no signs of instability or erosion on the faces, except for rills on Fill 7. These may not require repair (despite notes in past inspections) due to the appearance of self-healing, but close monitoring is highly recommended. The east channel at Fill 9 has some erosion at the bottom; the benefits of adding riprap should be weighed against the damage of driving on the fill with heavy equipment.

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 following ponds were inspected: 6, 7, 8, 9, and 9A. None of them were discharging, although none of them were dry. Embankments and spillways were generally in good condition (exception: see Slides and Other Damage section of this report). The rills on the downstream side of the Pond 9 embankment have been addressed by NECC with branches and other erosion control practices. These appear to be functioning well.

Ditches and check dams above Pond 6 appear to be functioning well.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

On the hillside above Pond 6 (where Fill 6 was planned), erosion is not currently a large problem, but rills may soon undercut the wattles, and maintenance of the wattles is needed.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The damage on the Pond 9A embankment requires repair. If the third party does not perform the work by the time NECC takes equipment to the Lorencito Canyon site for spring maintenance, NECC should perform the work.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Pond 9A embankment with damage

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Fill 9



East channel of Fill 9 – possible need for more riprap

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Damaged wattles on hill above Pond 6



Check dams above Pond 6

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Sediment and erosion controls below Pond 9

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