



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

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203 P 303.866.3567 F 303.832.8106 <http://mining.state.co.us>

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-012 Mine Name: New Elk Mine Operator: New Elk Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Louis Head 12250 Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	County: Las Animas Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Vince Massarotti
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: July 26, 2017 Inspection Start Time: 10:00 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: 7/31/2017

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

N - Backfill & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - 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 on July 26, 2017. The weather was mostly clear. The ground was mostly dry. The NECC representative who participated in the inspection was Vince Massarotti.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Erosion on DWDA#2 did not appear to have gotten worse in 2017.

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:

Additional sediment control BMPs have been added below and in the SAE by Pond 007A. They appear to be functioning well.

Ponds 001A, 007A, and 08 were inspected, and none of them were discharging. The impounded water was relatively high in all three ponds due to rains. No significant issues were seen with the pond spillways or embankments, and the liner at Pond 001A appears to be in good shape.

Containment Area 5 was holding water that was several feet below the top of the structure. There was no sign of problems with this structure.

Ditches D24E and D26 (lower portion) are in good shape and sized properly. The flume below D26 is in good shape. Culverts C46 and C48 were found to be clean and large enough to meet the specifications in the New Elk Mine PAP.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

There is good vegetation cover on the reclaimed portion of the RDA, and no large rills or gullies were seen on the face or in the side ditches (the RDA was inspected from below).

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The recently disturbed area below Pond 007A (disturbed when flow meter was installed) has significant vegetation including grass, clover, and gum weed.

The slope above Pond 08 has seen decent vegetation growth in 2017.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No significant issues were seen with the facility areas, including the retaining wall above the Bates Portal area. The pond cleaning material on the clean coal storage area needs to be removed as soon as it is dry enough to transport.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PHOTOGRAPHS



Retaining wall near Bates Portals

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Silt fence below SAE by Pond 007A



Sediment controls within SAE by Pond 007A

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Hill above Pond 08



Pond 08 spillway and Containment Area 5

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Pond 08 and RDA

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0