






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-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: August 30, 2017 Inspection Start Time: 07:00 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.	<table border="0"><tr><td>Inspector's Signature: </td><td>Signature Date: 9/5/2017</td></tr></table>	Inspector's Signature: 	Signature Date: 9/5/2017
Inspector's Signature: 	Signature Date: 9/5/2017		

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

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

Y - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

Y - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on August 30, 2017. The weather was clear, and the ground was mostly dry. Vince Massarotti and Nick Mason of NECC were present for the inspection.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Fills 7, 8, and 9 were inspected. All were generally in good condition with good vegetation cover. At Fill 7, rills are healing well, and the gully near the pond has been filled with branches by NECC staff. At Fill 8, the rock work performed to address erosion at the bottom of the west channel appears to be stable since the bare bank has not experienced recent erosion. At Fill 9, additional rock work may be needed to improve the eastern side channel if the bare bank begins to erode.

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:

All of the ponds were inspected; this includes Ponds 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 9A. Three of them were discharging (Ponds 7, 8, and 9) relatively clear water, although Pond 7 discharge was somewhat turbid. Embankments and emergency spillways were in good condition. On the top of the Pond 8 dam, grass and alfalfa are emerging. As mentioned in past inspections, it appears that primary spillways at some ponds have small leaks. Preferably, the seams on these should be sealed, but at the very least NECC should pay very close attention to the pond embankments. Regarding Pond 9, it is advised that NECC discuss the erosion on banks and the unstable inlet to the pond with a representative of the landowner to see if they have any issues with this situation. It would be better to get their input now versus waiting until the bond release process.

Culverts C5, C6, and C7 were clear of sediment.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

In the channel above Pond 6, check dams need to be cleared of sediment. Branches and riprap have been added to the channel above this pond, and the channel appears to be functioning well at this time.

As discussed with Vince Massarotti in the field, it would be beneficial to re-construct Ditch D-15, which is filled with sediment, and direct the flow into this ditch and away from the unnamed spur ditch, which is a very steep ditch above the road and is eroding.

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 ditch beside the road to Pond 6 needs to be cleared of sediment, and the drainage crossing needs to be graded.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

On the hill above Pond 6, the vegetation is growing well, but rills are in need of repair.

Erosion on the west side of “the knob” (large hill in center of site) is being addressed by NECC with branches, wattles, and ditch cleaning; additional work is needed. Rills near the shrub plot are healing well.

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: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PHOTOGRAPHS



Fill 7



Pond 7 discharge

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Hill above Pond 6



Sediment on road to Pond 6

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Bare bank of channel below Fill 8



Fill 9 side channel (east side)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0