



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-035 <b>Mine Name:</b> King Coal Mine <b>Operator:</b> GCC Energy, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Tom Bird 6473 County Road 120 Hesperus, CO 81326	<b>County:</b> La Plata <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Federal
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> October 11, 2017 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 11:17 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> <b>Inspection End Time:</b>	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Aerial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear
<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>  Harry B. Ranney	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <i>Robert D. Zh...</i>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  10/12/2017

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

R - Backfill &amp; Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

R - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

The King Coal Mine was photographed from an airplane by Harry Ranney of DRMS on October 11, 2017. The weather was clear. The photos were reviewed by Rob Zuber of DRMS on October 12, 2017, resulting in the following report.

**BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14**

Contemporaneous Reclamation 4.14.1; Approximate Original Contour 4.14.2; Highwall Elimination 4.14.1(2)(f); Steep Slopes 4.14.2, 4.27; Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials 4.14.3; Stabilization of Rills and Gullies 4.14.6:

Piles of soil on the King I facilities area need to be placed on the Refuse Pile, either on the upper portion (active portion of the Refuse Pile) or the lower portion where GCC needs to lessen the slope of the pile (as discussed in past reports for several months).

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

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

The Refuse Pile was inspected, and no slumps, erosion, or other problems were seen. Waste material (piles on upper portion of Refuse Pile) needs to be graded and compacted.

**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:

At the King I Mine, the West Pond and East Pond were holding water but did not appear to be discharging. The pasture below the pond spillways showed no sign of discharges from the ponds in recent weeks. No significant problems were seen with the embankments, but both ponds have significant deltas of sediment, and GCC needs to insure that both ponds have sufficient capacity for the design storm (10-year event). Preferably, this should be done with a conventional survey, or possibly GPS surveying would be sufficient.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

At the King I Mine, no problems were seen with any ditches. Particular attention was given to Reaches 1, 5, and 6.

The East and West Clearwater Ditches at King II appear to be functioning well; no signs of erosion or other problems were seen.

The King II pond was holding a small amount of water, but did not appear to be discharging. No issues were found with the embankment.

The silt fence southwest of the King II pond appears to be functioning well since there are no signs of sediment loading below this BMP.

#### 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):

No problems were seen with King I or King II roads.

#### SUBSIDENCE – Rule 4.20:

No damage from subsidence was seen in the affected areas near King I or King II. The areas seen in the photographs are approximately 500 – 1,000 feet from the facilities. The inspected areas include the Huntington pond.

#### SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The steep slopes at both King I and King II appeared stable. These include highwalls near former portal areas at King I and existing highwalls at King II.

#### SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No problems with sediment were seen on the hill below the fan construction area at King II, nor were other problems seen at the rest of the facilities areas at either King I or King II.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

**TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06**

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

At King I, the berm around the Plant Growth Medium Storage Area near the old Tipple Bench appears to be functioning well.

No problems were seen with the Topsoil Stockpiles at King II. They appear to be well vegetated, and there are no signs that the soil has been transported off the piles by runoff.

**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: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**King I**



**King I**

*Temporary soil piles*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**King I Refuse Pile**



**Huntington Pond**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**King II entrance and pond**



**King II pond and facilities**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**King II**



**King II**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**King II**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1