




**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> December 13, 2017 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> <b>Inspection End Time:</b>		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete 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>  Robert D. Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  12/15/2017		

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

NA - Air Resource Protection

Y - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill &amp; Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

Y - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

Y - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

Y - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on December 13, 2017. The weather was clear, and the ground was mostly dry. Nick Mason of NECC was 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. The rills on Fill 7 appear to be healing well. At the low end of the east channel of Fill 9, no erosion problems were seen.

**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:

Several ponds were inspected: 6, 7, 8, and 9A. All were holding water but not discharging. No problems were identified with embankments or emergency spillways.

To address discrepancies with the configuration of holes on some riser pipes on primary spillways, NECC staff have begun to revise them by drilling new holes. For some spillways, old holes will need to be covered. NECC staff should do the best job to prevent leakage through these holes, but a small amount of leakage is acceptable.

Ditch D7, where it drains into Pond 006A, has some erosion that should be monitored and possibly repaired. Check dams in Ditch D9 have been cleaned. The lower sections of Ditches D12 and D14 were inspected, and no problems were identified.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

The hillside above Pond 6 looked relatively stable. The rills do not appear to be getting worse, and some may be healing. Rills on the west side of “the knob” need to be repaired.

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

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**Fill 7 – upper portion where rills were located**



**Fill 7 – lower portion**

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**Pond 7 – NECC staff looking at spillway**



**Ditch D9 – recently cleaned check dams**

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**Fill 8 and northwestern portion of “the knob”**



**Pond 8 with new holes on spillway**

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**Fill 9 – northeast portion**



**Fill 9 from below**

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**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS****PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Expired 11/7/2017 (RN-04 pending)
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	MT4 (Jan. 2016)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. April 2018
Bond Document	\$927,121.00
Phased Bond Release	SL2, Findings 4/29/08
Documents/Findings	Terminated
Air Emission Permits	SUP-01-020
County Special Use Permits	n/a
UG Mining Landowner Notification	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Data	n/a
Rill & Gully Survey	n/a
Vegetation Monitoring Data	
Specific Variance Approvals	n/a
Annual Reclamation Reports	2016
Midterm Review Documents	MT4 (findings Jan. 2016)
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions	Nov. 2017
Transfers/Succession of Operator	Executed 2008
Temporary Cessation Notification	n/a
Reclamation Cost Estimate	MT4, \$842,218
<b>CERTIFICATIONS</b>	
Pond Certifications	Yes, Exhibit 15
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	n/a
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	yes
• Quarterly Inspections	Q2 2017
• Compaction Testing	
• Final Certification	
Coal Processing Waste Banks	n/a
Haul Road Certifications	yes
Access Road Certifications	yes

**HYDROLOGIC RECORDS**

NPDES Permit	CO0048988 (unsigned)
NPDES Records	Q3 2015 (terminated monitoring)
Stormwater Management Plan	2007
SPCC Plan	n/a
MSHA Pond Inspections	n/a
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	n/a
Quarterly Pond Inspections	Q2 2017
Annual Hydrology Reports	Terminated
• Ground Water Monitoring	
• Surface Water Monitoring	
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	
• Mine Inflow Study	
• Water Consumption Records	
Well Permits	201451, 201453- 201476

**BLASTING RECORDS**

Blasting Publication	n/a
Blasting Records (3 years)	n/a
ATFE Explosives Permit	n/a
Blasting Variances	n/a
Pre-Blast Surveys	n/a

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS  
(specify)**

None at this time	

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