



COLORADO

**Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety**

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

January 2, 2018

Mr. Tom Bird
GCC Energy, LLC
6473 County Road 120
Hesperus, CO 81326

Re: King Coal Mine, Review of refuse pile report, Q4 2017

Dear Mr. Bird:

Thank you for the report regarding the inspection of the Refuse Pile at King I for the fourth quarter of 2017. Overall, the report was in compliance with DRMS Rules 4.09 and 4.10. However, I do have two comments:

1. In my review of past reports, I noted the benefit of assessing and discuss the functioning of the underdrain system, both the rock drain that has an outlet near the toe of the pile and the pipe that drains to Reach 10. Your engineer, Ryan Griglak, provided some discussion on the system but did not mention the pipe drain or any evidence of staining below either drain (which indicates the possible source of the drain water). This discussion should be added to future reports.
2. Mr. Griglak noted the need for improved drainage below the rock drain. I think this is an excellent point and look forward to GCC's answer to this suggestion.

If you have comments or questions, please contact me at Rob.Zuber@state.co.us or 303.866.3567 (x8113).

Sincerely,

Robert D. Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist II

