




**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**

<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> September 20, 2018 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 09:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> September 20, 2018 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:00		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Raining	
<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>  9/21/2018

**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 &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

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on September 20, 2018. The weather was rainy. The ground was very muddy, which limited the aerial extent of the inspection. Nick Mason of NECC was present for the inspection.

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

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Fills 8 and 9 were inspected. No large rills or gullies 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:

Pond 9A was inspected. It was not discharging, but held water within two feet of the lowest hole on the primary spillway. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other features of the ponds.

No problem was found with ditch D71. **However, ditch D10 is completely filled with sediment. DRMS and NECC need to discuss this ditch (and the surrounding area) in depth. It could be problematic for the undisturbed area below it (to the northwest) if it is cleared of sediment, but the fact that it is not functioning is problematic for the disturbed hill directly below it (to the northeast), where erosion has been a problem.**

Culverts C6, C7, and C8 were all clear or mostly clear, and no maintenance is needed at this time.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

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

The hill known as “the knob” looked to be stable. It was viewed from all sides but the east side. Some rills remain, especially on west side.

**The hillside above the pond cleaning dump area and below ditch D10 continues to have erosion problems. Also, the hill above D10 is bare and contains rills; some of this may be outside of the designated disturbance area. This issue needs to be discussed in conjunction with the maintenance of ditch D10.**

**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: 1

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



West side of “the knob”

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**Ditch D10, filled with sediment**



**Rills on bare area above ditch D10**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**Ditch D71**



**Fill 8 with north side of “the knob” in background**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**Fill 9, including ditch D94 (side ditch on southwest side of fill)**



**Fill 9, including ditch D92 (side ditch on east side of fill)**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1