

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

CDRMS Permit C-1981-022 third quarter Pond Inspection and Coal Mine Refuse Pile **Inspection Reports**

Doug Smith < Doug.Smith@oxbow.com> To: "leigh.simmons@state.co.us" <leigh.simmons@state.co.us> Cc: Mike Ludlow < Mike.Ludlow@oxbow.com>

Wed, Oct 3, 2018 at 10:18 AM

Leigh,

Please find the attached pdf copy of the 3rd quarter reports for the Elk Creek Mine Pond and Refuse Pile Inspections.

Thanks,

Doug Smith

Oxbow Mining, LLC

(970) 929-6034

2018 EC 3rd Quarter Pond and Gob reports.pdf 5236K

XBOW MINING, LLC



3737 Hwy 133 P.O. Box 535 Somerset, Colorado 81434 USA Tel (970)929-5122 Fax (970)929-5177

October 3, 2018

Mr. Leigh Simmons **Environmental Protection Specialist** Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Oxbow Mining, LLC., CDRMS Permit C-1981-022,

> 3rd Quarter 2018 Pond Inspection Report and 3rd Quarter 2018 Coal Mine Refuse Pile Inspection Report.

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Enclosed are copies of the 3rd Quarter 2018 Pond Inspection Report, and the 3rd Quarter 2018 Coal Mine Refuse Report for the Division's records. Note that the reports indicate no issues or major concerns with these regulated facilities.

Please also note that the West Valley and II West Refuse piles were both completed in connection with our continuing reclamation activities. The refuse piles were capped with topsoil, drainages were completed and the disturbed areas were seeded during the quarter.

Please call me at 970-929-6034 if you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Doug A. Smith

Chief Engineer

Attachments

Mike Ludlow (OMLLC) Xc:

Doreg a. Smith

Files





THIRD QUARTER 2018 POND INSPECTION REPORT Pond Inspection Date: September 28, 2018

OPERATOR: MINE:	Oxbow Mining, LLC. Elk Creek Mine and Surface Facilities				
POND IDENTIFICATION:	<u>Hubbard</u>	Substation #3	Pond D		
CDPS NUMBER:	007	013	016		
TYPE OF POND:	Sediment	Sediment	Sediment		
APPROXIMATE WATER LEVEL:	0.0	0.0'	0.0		
SEDIMENT (% total storage):	<5%	<5%	<5%		
OUTFLOW:	None	None	None		
FEATURES	PROBLEM	PROBLEM	PROBLEM		
EROSIONAL					
Rills & Gullies	No	No	No		
Inadequate Vegetation	No	No	No		
Outlet Channel Erosion	No	No	No		
Burrows	No	No	No		
Other	No	No	No		
STRUCTURAL					
Differential Settling	No	No	No		
Cracks or Slides	No	No	No		
Seepage	No	No	No		
Other	No	No	No		
APPURTENANT STRUCTURES					
Defective Spillways	No	No	No		
Dewatering Devices Clogged	No	No	No		
Faulty Gates, Etc.	No	No	No		
Other	No	No	No		
MAINTENANCE REQUIRED	No	No	No		
REFERENCE DRAWINGS:	2.05-M5E	2.05-M5F	2.05-M5D		

Inspected By: Jones A. Smith





THIRD QUARTER 2018 POND INSPECTION REPORT Pond Inspection Date: September 28, 2018

OPERATOR: Oxbow Mining, LLC. MINE: Elk Creek Mine and Surface Facilities POND IDENTIFICATION: Pond A1 Pond B Pond C East Yard CDPS NUMBER 009 012 014 010 TYPE OF POND: Sediment Sediment Sediment Sediment APPROXIMATE WATER LEVEL: 0.0° 0.0' (6060.0') 0.0' 0.0'SEDIMENT (% total storage): <5% <5% <5% <5% **OUTFLOW:** None None None None **FEATURES PROBLEM** PROBLEM PROBLEM **EROSIONAL** Rills & Gullies No No No No Inadequate Vegetation No No No No Outlet Channel Erosion No No No No Burrows No No No No Other No No No No STRUCTURAL Differential Settling No No No No Cracks or Slides No No No No Seepage No No No No Other No No No No APPURTENANT STRUCTURES **Defective Spillways** No No No No **Dewatering Devices Clogged** No No No No Faulty Gates, Etc. No No No No Other No No No No MAINTENANCE REQUIRED No No No No REFERENCE DRAWINGS: 2.05-M5A 2.05-M5B 2.05-M5C 2.05-M5E

Inspected By: Nong A. Smith





THIRD QUARTER 2018 POND INSPECTION REPORT Pond Inspection Date: September 28, 2018

OPERATOR: MINE:	Oxbow Mini Elk Creek M	ng, LLC. ine and Surface Facilities				
POND IDENTIFICATION: CDPS NUMBER TYPE OF POND:	Pond E 017 Sediment	Pond F 019 Sediment				
APPROXIMATE WATER LEVEL:	0.0'	0.0'				
SEDIMENT (% total storage):	<5%	<5%				
OUTFLOW:	None	None				
FEATURES	PROBLEM	PROBLEM				
EROSIONAL						
Rills & Gullies	No	No				
Inadequate Vegetation	No	No				
Outlet Channel Erosion	No	No				
Burrows	No	No				
Other	No	No				
STRUCTURAL						
Differential Settling	No	No				
Cracks or Slides	No	No				
Seepage	No	No				
Other	No	No				
APPURTENANT STRUCTURES						
Defective Spillways	No	No				
Dewatering Devices Clogged	No	No				
Faulty Gates, Etc.	No	No				
Other	No	No				
MAINTENANCE REQUIRED	No	No				
REFERENCE DRAWINGS:	2.05-M5I	2.05-M5J				
Inspected By: Doug A. Smith						





THIRD QUARTER 2018 POND INSPECTION REPORT Pond Inspection Date: September 28, 2018

Miscellaneous Comments:

- 1. The SWMP control devices were inspected and all SWMP control devices were found to be in fair condition. Routine quarterly maintenance to sumps was conducted.
- 2. Sediment and Water Level Determination When sediment enters a pond, it is deposited unevenly, usually collecting at the inlets rather than evenly across the bottom of the pond. Reported sediment levels are based upon the inspector's observations made throughout the quarter during routine inspections in combination with knowledge of the pond structure. The reported pond water level is also determined by observations relative to the various landmarks in the pond (depth to bottom, primary riser, etc.)

Notwithstanding comments above, ponds have been maintained as designed and in accordance with the approved plan.

Under Direction of:

| Doug A. Smith | Doug A.

OXBOW MINING,LLC



THIRD QUARTER 2018 ENGINEERING INSPECTION EAST YARD, WEST VALLEY FILL AND II WEST COAL MINE WASTE DISPOSAL PILES

The approved Oxbow Mining, LLC (OMLLC) Mine permit includes a requirement for quarterly inspections of coal mine waste piles for stability. The inspection is to be performed by a registered engineer or other qualified professional specialist, who is experienced in the construction of earth and rock fill embankments.

Visual inspections were performed on the, West Valley Fill, II West and East Yard coal mine waste disposal areas on September 28, 2018.

Compaction tests were conducted on both West Valley Fill and II West piles before capping with topsoil during the quarter.

<u>EAST YARD</u> - The East Yard disposal area has reached its design capacity, and no new waste material has been placed since June of 2001. The revegetated slope was inspected for signs of erosion or instability. No erosional features were noted on the slope. The covering of the waste pile is considered complete. Nothing was observed during the inspection that would indicate the pile has a potential for structural failure. Fill material from the reclamation activities on the Elk Creek Mine Middle Bench has been placed at the base of the waste pile per the reclamation plan.

<u>WEST VALLEY FILL</u> – No waste material was hauled to the West Valley Fill area dung this quarter, but was completed with topsoil and was seeded.

On August 3 of 2018, compaction tests were completed on the West Valley fill. The area was then capped with a minimum of 4' of topsoil. Drainage courses were completed during September and the area was seeded. Compaction test results are included with this report.

The refuse pile remains surveyed at the approximate 6228' elevation, not including the addition of the topsoil. As built elevations and maps will be provided as they become available. The active waste storage area is no longer available as an interim storage area for wet refuse re-handled later to II West and as a staging area for miscellaneous projects and material storage.

During the third quarter of 2015, a burning coal odor, dead vegetation and a warm surface indicated a zone of spontaneous combustion under the reclaimed surface located on the west end of the second bench at the approximate 6200' elevation. An MSHA remediation plan was submitted and approved. The work was completed on 10/15/2105 and was reseeded 10/27/2015. No heating was detected this quarter. Vegetation has covered the area well.

The revegetated out slope located between the fill slope toe to the approximate 6200' elevation was inspected for signs of erosion and instability. No erosional features were noted on the slope. The third bench (approximate 6220' elevation) setback remains established for the final lift of waste material and the ramp constructed on the waste pile to provide access to the II West Coal Refuse Facility light use road and haul road. These two roads continued to be utilized during the quarter. No springs or seeps were noted. Surface drainage control features are performing according to the plan. Nothing was observed during the inspection that would indicate the West Valley Fill has a potential for structural failure.

OXBOW MINING,LLC



<u>II WEST</u> – The II West disposal area received no new coal mine waste material during the quarter, but was completed with topsoil and was seeded.

On August 3 of 2018, compaction tests were completed on the II West fill. The area was then capped with a minimum of 4' of topsoil. Drainage courses were completed during September and the area was seeded. Compaction test results are included with this report.

II West waste remains at the approximate 6141' elevation, not including the addition of the topsoil. As built elevations and maps will be provided as they become available

The 2013 regraded out slope area seeded on November 7, 2013 remains stable upon finishing the third year growth of seeded species. Older seeded areas continue to perform according to the plan. No new areas were available for seeding since 2013. No springs or seeps were noted. Surface drainage control features are performing according to the plan. Nothing was observed during the inspection that would indicate the II West Valley Fill has a potential for structural failure.

Inspected by Doug A. Smith

Michael W. Ludlow

Date

Colorado Licensed Professional Engineer No. 24046

Alaska - Arizona - Colorado - Montana - North Oakota - Oregon - Washington - Wyoming



August 10, 2018

Doug Smith Oxbow Mine LLC 3737 Highway 133 Somerset, CO, 81434

Transmitted via email: doug.smith@oxbow.com

Re:

Laboratory and Field Moisture Density Testing

Oxbow Mine LLC, Somerset CO, 81434 Project 7141.74902.01 Final Report

Dear Doug,

In accordance with your request, DOWL provided an engineering technician to perform moisture density testing on the top of previously compacted mine waste fill piles, West Valley #1 and West Valley #2. The mine is closed and reclamation work is being performed, no mine waste is currently being placed and the areas are to be covered with topsoil. Samples 1 through 6 were collected at each density test location to determine in-situ moisture contents, rock correction and specific gravity of the +3/4" material. Standard Proctor (D-698) test was done on samples #1 and #6 to determine the moisture density relationship of the soil.

These tests do not certify the current or future stability of the waste fill piles. Density tests taken on top of the waste piles West Valley #1 and #2 by DOWL only indicate that relative densities of ≥95.0% are being obtained in relation to Standard Proctor tests #1 and #6 attached for the material tested.

Thank you for having DOWL perform this work for you.

Should you require additional information or have any questions, please contact us at 970-497-8889.

Sincerely,

Reviewed by:

Jeramy Harshman Project Manager Daniel Quigley, P.E. Professional Engineer

Attachments:

Standard Proctor Test results, sample Nos. 1 and 6

%Oversized Retained on 3/4" Sieve, sample Nos. 1 through 6

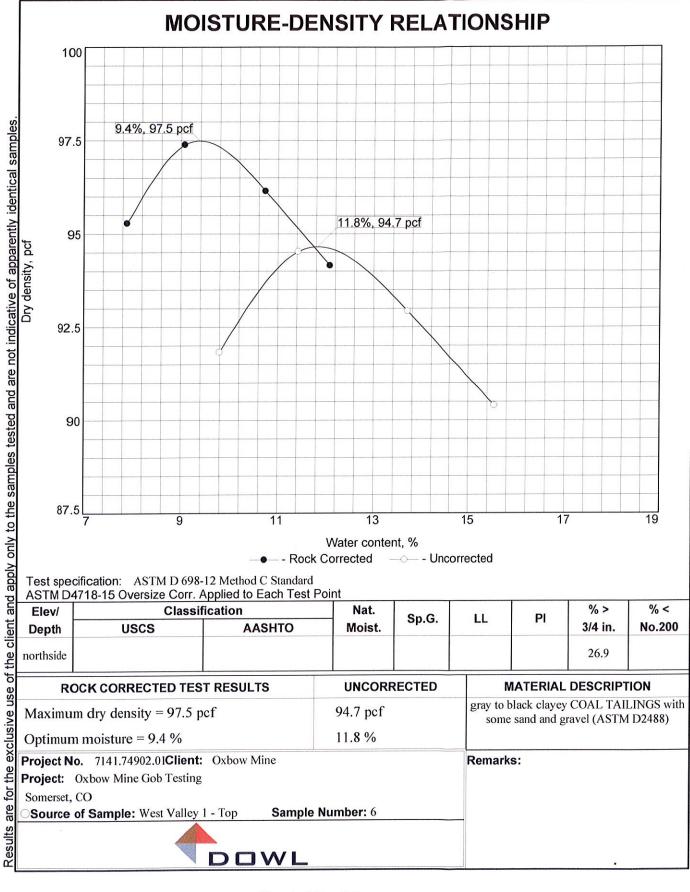
In-Situ Moisture Content, sample Nos. 1 through 6

Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse Aggregate, sample Nos. 1 through 6

Moisture-Density Test results, Nos. 1 through 6

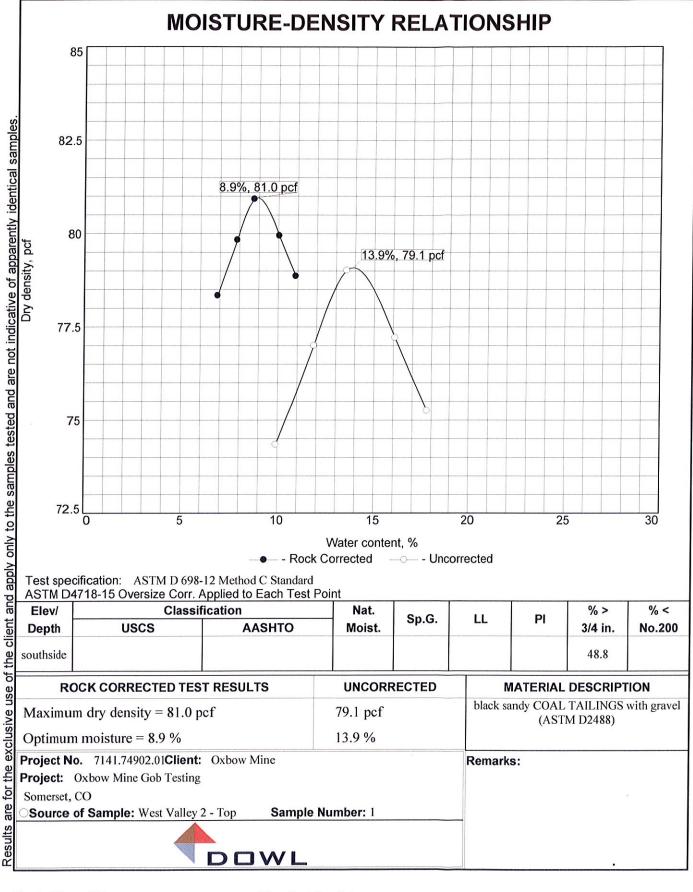
																		-	
Project:					1								Clier	nt / Or				10	C
	Oxbow Mine	Gob	Pile Testing			SEE SA		WL					_		_	-	e LLC,	/Doug	Smith
						_	, ப	VVL	EXTENSES	a de la	COM		Cont	ractor			ellC	/Doug	Smith
Project No		-	Date:		1					Park A			Tech	nician			C LLC,	Doug	Simer
	1.74902.01		8/3/2018					Montro		lorado (1001	inician		Jeram	ny Har	shmai	n
	17 1502101	N PER SU	0/0/2020			DAI	LY CO	MPACTIO	N RE	PORT	-							AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF	
				100		-	TYPE	MAX DRY	OR OTHER DESIGNATION OF THE PERSON OF THE PE	IMUM	William William	RY	MOI	STURE	PER	CENT	NOT	SOIL	LAB SAMPLE
TEST		L	OCATION		GRADE ELEV	NUC	SAND	DENSITY	MOIS	STURE	DEN	ISITY	CON	ITENT	COMP	ACTION	WITHIN	TYPE	NUMBER
NUMBER						NUC	SAND	(pcf)	CON	T. (%)	(1	ocf)	(%)			SPEC		A
1	West Valley				Тор	X		71.8		6.9		68.5		10.7		95.3			WV #2 RC @ 49.0%
2	West Valley				Тор	Х		83.5	_	7.7		84.6		9.6		101.3			WV #2 RC @ 29.0%
3	West Valley				Тор	Х		81.9		7.6		78.4		12.5		95.7		_	WV#2 RC @ 34.0%
4			Southeast side		Тор	X		99.7		8.6		98.7		5.3		99.0		Gob	
5			Southwest side		Тор	X		112.9		7.2		107.2		5.9		95.0	_	Gob	
6	West Valley	#11	North side		Тор	Х	_	100.8		7.9		98.9		5.6		98.2	_	Gob	WV#1 RC @27.0%
									_								_		
							_		_		-						_	_	
											_								
									_				_						
м	IOISTURE / DEN	SITY	SPECIFICATIONS	-	OBSE	RVATIO	ON / TES	STING						FIELD (BSERV	ATIONS	S		
	IOISTORE / DER	57110	or Edit Torritorio		0202		,	-,	Date:				THE PARTY NAMED IN				100	ction E	guipment Used:
Specified Compaction			Cohesive Soils		Full Time:				Day:	S	М	Т	W	Th	F	S			
Requirement:	95%		Cohesionless Soils	X											Х		Sheeps	foot:	
					Part Time:				Weath	er:	Sun	Clear	Ove	rcast	Rain	Snow			
Specified			70-1-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-)	X			Smooth	Drum R	oller:
Moisture	. ,	2	Cohesive Soils		Number of Site \	/isits/Da	y:		Temp:		To 32	32-50	50-70	70-85	85 Up				
Requirement:	+/-	-2	Cohesionless Soils	X									Χ				Vibrato	ry:	
					Testing Only:			X	Wind:		Still		Mod		High				
					Requested By	(Compa	any Nan	ne):			X						Other (List Bel	ow):
Laboratory Te Procedure:	esting d69	98	Cohesive Soils			vhow I	Mine LLO	,	Humid	ity:	Dry		Mod		Humid				1
riocedure.			Cohesionless Soils	X		ALCON I	rillie EE	•					Χ						
DEN	ISITY / COMPAC	TION	TESTING WAS NOT P	ERFOR	MED	Insuffici	ient amo	unt of	Inform	ed (Rep	of Cor	npany)	of Test	Results	s:				
2000			THE FOLLOWING REAS				placed.					Doug	Smith						s not informed prior al on site that the
Contractor No	t Working Due T	Го:	The Contractor Is:										Similar						ould not be working
	_			25					Field C	opies G	iven To	:						on	this date.
Inclement We	ather:		Processing Frozen Material:		Processing	g Wet Ma	aterial:												
200	_								Contra	ctor:								L	
Equipment Ma	olfunction:		Stripping and/or Grubbing:		Moisture 0	Condition	ing Dry M	ati:	Client:							- 1	DAGE	05 1	
	-								CM/GM	1: .							PAGE 1	L OF 1	
Unknown:	L		Stockpiling Fill:		Removing	Unsuitat	ore Mat'i:		Other:										
		- 1					2.1											25-22-25	The same of the sa

GOB testing DCR.xlsx DCR



Tested By: SJ

Checked By: JLH



Tested By: JLH

Checked By: SJ

Alaska ■ Arizona ■ Colorado ■ Montana ■ North Dakota ■ Oregon ■ Washington ■ Wyoming



% Oversized Retained on 3/4" Sieve

Project Name Project Location Client Oxbow Mine Gob Testing
Somerset, CO
Oxbow Mine

 Date
 8/8/2018

 Project #
 7141.74902.01

 Test by
 SJ

 Test for
 JLH

Sample #	Test Location	Soil Description (ASTM D2488)	Initial Wt.(g) of Sample	Wt.(g) retained on 3/4"	% Oversize
1 - southside	West Valley 2 - Top	black sandy COAL TAILINGS with gravel	60383.2	29465.9	48.8%
2 - westside	West Valley 2 - Top	black sandy COAL TAILINGS with some gravel	18724.6	5339.9	28.5%
3 - northside	West Valley 2 - Top	black sandy COAL TAILINGS with very little gravel	18053.3	6117.5	33.9%
4 - southeast corner	West Valley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some gravel	22689.1	3036.7	13.4%
5 - southwest corner	West Valley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel	21292.0	7575.1	35.6%
6 - northside	West Valley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel	52926.1	14234.0	26.9%



Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	Date	8/8/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test by_	JLH
Sample Location	West Valley 2 - Top	Test for	JLH
Sample #	1 - southside		
Soil Description	black sandy COAL TAILINGS with gravel	(ASTM D2488)	

Specific Gravity (OD):	1.33
Specific Gravity (SSD):	1.40
Apparent Specific Gravity:	1.43
Density (OD):	83.10 lb/ft ³
Density (SSD):	87.10 lb/ft ³
Apparent Density:	88.80 lb/ft ³
Absorption:	4.8 %



Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	Date_	8/8/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test by	JLH
Sample Location	West Valley 2 - Top	Test for	JLH
Sample #	2 - westside		
Soil Description	black sandy COAL TAILINGS with some gravel	(ASTM D2488)	

Specific Gravity (OD):	1.34
Specific Gravity (SSD):	1.41
Apparent Specific Gravity:	1.44
Density (OD):	83.53 lb/ft ³
Density (SSD):	87.60 lb/ft ³
Apparent Density:	89.37 lb/ft ³
Absorption:	4.9 %

83.66 lb/ft³ 5.0 %



Apparent Density:

Absorption:

	_ Date	8/8/2018
Project Location Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client Oxbow Mine	Test by	JLH
Sample Location West Valley 2 - Top	Test for	JLH
Sample # 3 - northside		
Soil Description black sandy COAL TAILINGS with very little gravel	(ASTM D2488)	
Specific Gravity (OD):	1.26	
Specific Gravity (SSD):	1.32	
Apparent Specific Gravity:	1.34	
	78.44 lb/	⊕ 3
Density (OD):	76.44 ID/	



Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	_ Date_	8/8/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test by	JLH
Sample Location	West Valley 1 - Top	Test for	JLH
Sample #	4 - southeast corner	_	
Soil Description	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some gravel	(ASTM D2488)	

Specific Gravity (OD):	1.78
Specific Gravity (SSD):	1.84
Apparent Specific Gravity:	1.89
Density (OD):	110.53 lb/ft ³
Density (SSD):	114.39_lb/ft³
Apparent Density:	117.83 lb/ft ³
Absorption:	3.5_%



Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	Date_	8/8/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #_	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test by_	JLH
Sample Location	West Valley 1 - Top	Test for_	JLH
Sample #	5 - southwest corner		
Soil Description	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel	(ASTM D2488)	

Specific Gravity (OD):	2.18
Specific Gravity (SSD):	2.25
Apparent Specific Gravity:	2.35
Density (OD):	135.63_lb/ft ³
Density (SSD):	140.18_lb/ft ³
Apparent Density:	146.33 lb/ft ³
Absorption:	3.4 %



Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	Date_	8/8/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #_	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test by_	JLH
Sample Location	West Valley 1 - Top	Test for _	JLH
Sample #	6 - northside		
Soil Description	gray to black clayey COAL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel	(ASTM D2488)	

Specific Gravity (OD):	1.70
Specific Gravity (SSD):	1.76
Apparent Specific Gravity:	1.81
Density (OD):	105.56 lb/ft ³
Density (SSD):	109.62 lb/ft ³
Apparent Density:	112.92 lb/ft ³
Absorption:	3.8 %



Laboratory Data Sheet: In-Situ Moisture Content

ASTM D-2216

Project Name	Oxbow Mine Gob Testing	Date	8/3/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test By	JLH
		Test for	JLH

Sample #	Sample Location			Soil Description
	West V	/alley 2 - Top	black sandy COAL	TAILINGS with gravel (ASTM D2488)
1 - southside	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
	84.4	1023.1	932.4	10.7%

Sample #	Sample # Sample Location			Soil Description
	West Valley 2 - Top		2 - Top black sandy COAL TAILINGS with some gravel (ASTM D	
2 - westside	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
	84.4	1040.2	956.8	9.6%

Sample #	Sample Location		9	Soil Description
	West V	/alley 2 - Top	black sandy COAL TAILI	NGS with very little gravel (ASTM D2488)
3 - northside	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
Ī	85.5	1050.3	943.4	12.5%

Sample #	Sample # Sample Location			Soil Description
	West V	/alley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey CO	AL TAILINGS with gravel (ASTM D2488)
4 - southeast corner	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
	85.3	1197.1	1141.1	5.3%



Laboratory Data Sheet: In-Situ Moisture Content

ASTM D-2216

Project Name	Project Location Somerset, CO		8/3/2018
Project Location	Somerset, CO	Project #	7141.74902.01
Client	Oxbow Mine	Test By	JLH
		Test for	JLH

Sample #	Sample Location			Soil Description
	West V	/alley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey CO	AL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel (ASTM D2488)
5 - southwest corner	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
	83.5	1011.7	959.8	5.9%

Sample #	Sample Location			Soil Description
	West V	⁄alley 1 - Top	gray to black clayey CO.	AL TAILINGS with some sand and gravel (ASTM D2488)
6 - northside	Tare (g)	Tare + wet (g)	Tare + dry (g)	% Moisture
	85.1	1269.0	1205.9	5.6%