




**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>  Vince Massarotti
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> December 11, 2018 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 12:15 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> December 12, 2018 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:30		<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>  12/13/2018

**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 & Grading**R** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**Y** - Fish & 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 11 and 12, 2018 (the 11th was just the records check). The weather was clear. The ground was mostly dry. Vince Massarotti 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. 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:

All ponds were inspected: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 9A. Most contained some water, although 5 and 7 were dry. None of them were discharging. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other features of the ponds.

No significant problems were found with ditches. In particular, the following ditches (at least significant segments of them) were inspected closely: D2, D76, and D84. Ditch D76 should be watched closely (if not cleaned) because sediment accumulation is considerable at one location. The lower portion of Ditch D84 should also be watched closely for erosion as noted in the past. The riprap in this channel appears to be stable as it has not shifted considerably from past inspections.

No problems were identified with culverts.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

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

No erosion or other problems were seen with BA-3 (it was viewed from across the creek).

The hill known as “the knob” looked to be stable, with no gullies. Rills were seen (as in the past), and NECC staff has treated them with branches on the west side. More work needs to be done this winter, prior to spring 2019 runoff.

As noted in the past, there are many rills on the hillside above Pond 6 and on the hillside above the pond cleaning dump area. The rill next to Pond 7 appears to be healing well, and the branches placed in this large rill appear to be helping considerably.

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Hillside above pond cleaning dump area (west of the primary road intersection)**



**Fill 8**

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**Ditch D84, lower end**

*Quarry at Pond 6*



**Pond 6 and area above it**

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**Ditch D76 with sediment accumulation**



**Fill 7**

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**Fill 9**



**Ditch D2 and Culvert C3**

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

DRMS Permit	Expires 11/7/2022
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN4 (Jan. 2018)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. April 2019
Bond Document	\$927,121.00
Phased Bond Release	SL2,
Documents/Findings	Findings 4/29/08
Air Emission Permits	Terminated
County Special Use Permits	SUP-01-020
UG Mining Landowner Notification	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Data	n/a
Rill & Gully Survey	2017 ARR
Vegetation Monitoring Data	
Specific Variance Approvals	n/a
Annual Reclamation Reports	2017
Midterm Review Documents	MT4 (findings Jan. 2016)
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions	Nov. 2018
Transfers/Succession of Operator	Executed 2008
Temporary Cessation Notification	n/a
Reclamation Cost Estimate	RN4, \$877,328
<b>CERTIFICATIONS</b>	
Pond Certifications	Yes, Exhibit 15
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	n/a
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	2003
• Quarterly Inspections	Q3 2018
• Compaction Testing	
• Final Certification	
Coal Processing Waste Banks	n/a
Haul Road Certifications	yes
Access Road Certifications	yes

**HYDROLOGIC RECORDS**

NPDES Permit	CO0048988, Expires 12/31/2020
NPDES Records	Q3 2015 (terminated monitoring)
Stormwater Management Plan	1997
SPCC Plan	n/a
MSHA Pond Inspections	n/a
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	n/a
Quarterly Pond Inspections	<b>* Comment 1</b>
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	

**Comments**

**\*1 Through Q2 2018. Staff to contact Ron Thompson for newer reports**

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