

STATE OF
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

New Elk Mine inspection report

3 messages

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>
To: Louis Head <lhead@newelkcoal.com>

Fri, Feb 22, 2019 at 1:59 PM

Hi, Louis.

Please see the attached report. Three items require attention by NECC in the near future:

- Quarterly reports are missing and need to be put in the binder.
- The material on the RDA needs to be spread and compacted.
- The vegetation reference area needs to be delineated. Even if NECC plans to identify a new reference area or areas, the current site should be marked correctly.

Regards,
Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist II
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety - Coal Regulatory Program



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety
Department of Natural Resources

P 303.866.3567, extension 8113 | F 303.832.8106
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203
rob.zuber@state.co.us | <http://mining.state.co.us>



INSP-REPORTC_C1981012_RDZ_02222019125539.pdf
3139K

Louis Head <lhead@newelkcoal.com>

Tue, Feb 26, 2019 at 9:27 AM

To: "Zuber - DNR, Rob" <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Cc: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>, Vince Massarotti <vincem@newelkcoal.com>, Jim Begano <jimb@newelkcoal.com>

Rob,

I agree with the first and third comment and had plans to correct already.

The material on the RDA is planned for correction; however, currently greatly impossible with ground frozen conditions to compact. This is not just my opinion, but for the 3rd party compaction testing company we engage. Hopefully we will have some consistently warmer weather rather than this extreme cold experienced at the mine. When material is viable enough to be compacted correctly and pass a compaction testing, this will be done, as we have discussed previously. Also, disturbing that product now, before compaction is viable, would impact and contaminate not only the pond, after we now have cleaned, but the sumps, embankment, etc. as well with unnecessary pond cleaned fine material. Given the volume of said material, once spread, a new bench measurement would not be met either. The levels will be reexamined once all material from the pond cleanings is transported.

We are reviewing the two inspection reports now and may respond to other comments.

Best,

Louis

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Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Wed, Feb 27, 2019 at 7:58 AM

To: Louis Head <lhead@newelkcoal.com>

Cc: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>, Vince Massarotti <vincem@newelkcoal.com>, Jim Begano <jimb@newelkcoal.com>

Louis -

Thanks for looking at this. I agree with you; wait for favorable conditions to spread the RDA material. That is why I said in my report "preferably soon" rather than "needs to be done soon." Sorry I did not elaborate.

Regards,
Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.

Environmental Protection Specialist II

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