



**TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**HEADQUARTERS:** P.O. BOX 33695 DENVER, COLORADO 80233-0695 303-452-6111

March 19, 2019

Mr. Brock Bowles  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

**RE: New Horizon Mine  
Permit No. C-1981-008  
1st Quarter 2019 Impoundment Inspections**

Dear Mr. Bowles:

Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC (Elk Ridge) operates the New Horizon Mine. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) is the parent company of Elk Ridge. The New Horizon Mine operates under Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS) Permit No. C-1981-008.

In accordance with Rule 4.05.9(17), Tri-State is submitting the enclosed quarterly impoundment inspections on behalf of Elk Ridge.

If you have any questions about the enclosed quarterly impoundment reports, please contact Tony Tennyson at (970) 825-1232 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Dan Casiraro  
Senior Manager  
Environmental Services

DJC:TT:der

Enclosures

cc: Frank Ferris (via email)  
Chris Gilbreath (via email)  
Tony Tennyson (via email)  
Jason Storey (via email)  
G474-11.3(21)b-9



## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**  
 Pond Name: **Pond 009**  
 NPDES Permit & Outfall #: **CO-0000213**  
 Date Examined: **18-March-2019**  
 Location Description: **2 miles NW of Nucla**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**  
 Pond Type: **Partly Incised**  
 CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**  
 Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**  
 Legal Location: **Sec 36 of T47N R16W**  
 Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

***Circle or Write appropriate Response***

- |     |   |                         |                        |                         |
|-----|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 7.  | Clogging  |                         |                        |                         |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |                         |                        |                         |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes                     | <del>No</del> <b>X</b> | N/A                     |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | <del>Yes</del> <b>X</b> | No                     | N/A                     |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation _____                            | Yes                     | No                     | <del>N/A</del> <b>X</b> |

Comments: **Water cover about 90% of the pond bottom**

## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**  
 Pond Name: **Pond 012**  
 NPDES Permit & Outfall #: **CO-0000213**  
 Date Examined: **18-March-2019**  
 Location Description: **2 miles NW of Nucla**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**  
 Pond Type: **Partly Incised**  
 CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**  
 Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**  
 Legal Location: **Sec 36 of T47N R16W**  
 Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

***Circle or Write appropriate Response***

- |     |   |                |               |                |
|-----|---|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 7.  | Clogging  |                |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |                |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | <del>Yes</del> | No            | N/A            |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation _____                            | Yes            | No            | <del>N/A</del> |

Comments: **About 2 feet of water in bottom of pond**

## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**

Pond Name: **Pond 013**

Pond Type: **Partly Incised**

NPDES Permit & Outfall #s: **CO-0000213**

CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**

Date Examined: **18-March-2019**

Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**

Location Description: **2 miles West of Nucla**

Legal Location: **Sec 36 of T47N R16W**

Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

### *Circle or Write appropriate Response*

- |     |   |                |               |     |
|-----|---|----------------|---------------|-----|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 7.  | Clogging  |                |               |     |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |                |               |     |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes            | <del>No</del> | N/A |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | <del>Yes</del> | No            | N/A |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation                                  |                |               |     |
|     | <b>Flume in place &amp; functioning</b>                     | <del>Yes</del> | No            | N/A |

Comments: **Pond discharging**

## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**

Pond Name: **Pond 015**

NPDES Permit & Outfall #s: **CO-0000213**

Date Examined: **18-March-2019**

Location Description: **2 miles West of Nucla**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**

Pond Type: **Partly Incised**

CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**

Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**

Legal Location: **Sec 36 of T47N R16W**

Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

***Circle or Write appropriate Response***

- |     |   |     |               |                |
|-----|---|-----|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 7.  | Clogging  |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation _____                            | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |

Comments: **Pond bottom dry**

## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**  
 Pond Name: **Pond 016**  
 NPDES Permit & Outfall #: **CO-0000213**  
 Date Examined: **18-March-2019**  
 Location Description: **2 miles West of Nucla**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**  
 Pond Type: **Partly Incised**  
 CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**  
 Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**  
 Legal Location: **Sec 36 of T47N R16W**  
 Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

***Circle or Write appropriate Response***

- |     |   |     |               |                |
|-----|---|-----|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 7.  | Clogging  |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation _____                            | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |

Comments: **About 2 foot of water in central pond bottom**

## POND EXAMINATION FORM, 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019

Mine: **New Horizon 2 Mine**

Pond Name: **Pond 018**

NPDES Permit & Outfall #: **CO-0000213**

Date Examined: **18-March-2019**

Location Description: **0.1 miles West of Nucla**

Owner's Rep.: **Frank Ferris, Mine Manager**

Pond Type: **Partly Incised**

CDRM & S #: **C-1981-008**

Date Last Examined: **29-August-2018**

Legal Location: **Sec 6 of T46N R15W**

Inspector's Name: **Frank Ferris**

***Circle or Write appropriate Response***

- |     |   |     |               |                |
|-----|---|-----|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | Seepage (specify location, color, and approx. volume) _____ | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 2.  | Cracks or scarps on crest or slopes _____                   | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 3.  | Sloughing or bulging on slopes _____                        | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 4.  | Major erosion problems _____                                | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 5.  | Surface movements in valley bottom or on hillside _____     | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 6.  | Water impounded against toe _____                           | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 7.  | Clogging  |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway channels and pipes _____                        | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | c) Diversion Ditches _____                                  | Yes | <del>No</del> | N/A            |
| 8.  | Cracking or crushing of pipes                               |     |               |                |
|     | a) Spillway pipes _____                                     | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
|     | b) Decant system _____                                      | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 9.  | Trash racks clear and in place _____                        | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |
| 10. | Monitoring instrumentation _____                            | Yes | No            | <del>N/A</del> |

Comments: **About 2 feet of water in pond bottom**