




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

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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-028 Mine Name: Keenesburg Strip Mine Operator: Coors Energy Company Operator Address: Mr. Danny Kipp 1801 California Street Suite 4600 Denver, CO 80202	County: Weld Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Danny Kipp
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: May 22, 2019 Inspection Start Time: 07:45 Inspection End Date: May 22, 2019 Inspection End Time: 10:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts: 	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts: 	
Inspector(s): Robert D. Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 5/22/2019

Inspection Topic Summary

NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

Y - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS and Danny Kipp of Coors Energy Company (CEC). The weather was partly cloudy and cool. The ground was muddy from recent snow (approximately four inches May 20 - 21) and rain (May 19 - 20). Over an inch of water was in the site rain gage, per CEC staff (Mark Q.).

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were not found to be complete. The findings document for Midterm 07 was not in the records onsite, nor was the Reclamation Cost Estimate from the midterm.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Several species of wildlife were seen during the inspection. At Sediment Pond 2 observed birds included, but were not limited to, two pelicans, ducks, an owl, a hawk, a sandhill crane, and killdeer. A lone coyote was seen on the long term spoil area. Two hawks were seen in a tree by a nest south of Area 25 (slightly outside the existing permit boundary). A fox was seen running away from Topsand Pile A-1. Danny Kipp noted that he recently saw fox kits playing near the dock on the facilities area.

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:

Water was observed in the two ponds, but levels in both ponds were several feet below the spillways, and neither pond was discharging during the inspection. Nor were there signs that they had discharged recently. No problems were observed with the two ponds.

The ditch along the north perimeter was found to be in good shape.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The undisturbed area north of B Pit and along the western permit boundary was inspected, and it appeared that there has been no disturbance in this area.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No problems were seen with any reclamation parcels. The particular areas that were inspected closely (by driving through them in a utility task vehicle) are 30, 31, and 32. The vegetation cover looks very good. Significant cheat grass (*Bromus tectorum*) was seen around the site, but the Division has accepted that this is an ongoing problem on-site and all around the site, and CEC has made a very good effort over the years to control this undesirable grass. Furthermore, the Division has no reason to believe that CEC will not continue to make a concerted effort at controlling cheat grass.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15**Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

An unknown plant was seen east of the Dugout Pond (see photo below). The Division will try to identify the species.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No problems were seen at the facilities area.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Danny Kipp indicated that the movement of topsand has been limited by ground conditions due to weather and by mechanical problems with the scraper. Spreading of topsand has been completed on the north half of B Pit. Also at approximately 50 percent completion in terms of finished area is the spreading of topsand on the long term spoil area.

No significant erosion problems were seen at any of the topsand piles. Both of the topsand piles north of the long term spoil area are dwindling in size. The one to the northwest in particular (B horizon) is now very small compared to early in the year.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Unidentified plant between Dugout Pond and facilities area



Sediment Pond 2

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West Perimeter Ditch, looking east with Sediment Pond 2 in background (under trees)



West Perimeter Ditch, looking west toward northwest corner of site

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Remainder of B Horizon topsand in pile north of spoil area



Undisturbed area north of B Pit

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Looking south at Area 32 (on left) and undisturbed area (on right)



Looking south at Areas 32 (foreground) and 31

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Facilities area



Dugout pond, Area 25, and long term spoil area

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp. Nov 2021
Permit Application w/Revisions	Yes
Findings Document	RN-07 (Aug 2017)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. 11/1/2019
Bond Document	\$1,197,459 (March 2016)

Phased Bond Release	SL-09
Documents/Findings	(August 2018)
Air Emission Permits	123008803
County Special Use Permits	Weld #1160, #386
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2018 ARR
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2018
Midterm Review Documents	MT-06 (2014) *1
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	April 2019
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	*1

CERTIFICATIONS

Pond Certifications	Yes
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	NA
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	NA
NPDES Records	NA
Stormwater Management Plan	NA
SPCC Plan	Updated 2012
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	Through 2019 Q1
Annual Hydrology Reports	2018
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	NA
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	*2

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA *3
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	NA

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

Pest and Weed report	Through 2019 Q1

COMMENTS:

*1 – MT-07 findings and cost estimate from MT-07 were missing from files.

*2 – Domestic use well and fire protection well (048289f, 24650f)

*3 – No explosives used since 1995.

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