



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

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

December 3, 2019

Mr. Zach Trujillo  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety  
Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

**RE: Colowyo Coal Mine  
Permit No. C-1981-019  
Fill Monitoring Certifications  
Fourth Quarter 2019**

Dear Mr. Trujillo:

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc. (Tri-State), is the parent company to Axial Basin Coal Company, which is the general partner to Colowyo Coal Company L.P. (Colowyo). Therefore, Tri-State on behalf of Colowyo is submitting the South Taylor Fill Construction Certifications for the fourth quarter of 2019.

If you should have any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact Tony Tennyson at (970) 824-1232.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Casiraro  
Senior Manager  
Environmental Services

DJC:TT:der

Enclosures

cc: Tony Tennyson (via email)  
Chris Gilbreath (via email)  
Angela Aalbers (via email)  
File: CF 24.20.03  
G471-11.3(21)h-4



### South Taylor Fill Inspection Certification

On November 19th, 2019 I inspected the South Taylor Fill areas, which includes the East Taylor Fill and the West Taylor Fill, identified on Map 23A and Map 45 of the approved permit. The purpose of this inspection was to observe the status of the fill placement. This inspection is necessary to satisfy the requirements of CDRMS Rule 4.09.1(1)(c) and Rule 4.09.1(11). Weather conditions at the time of inspection were approximately 54°F and sunny.

**West Taylor Fill with A-A' and B-B' Underdrain Area** The East Tributary of the West Taylor fill has rip-rap installed up to the 7840' elevation. The West Tributary of the West Taylor fill has rip-rap installed up to the 7820' elevation. Dumping has ceased on the 8100' level of the temporary out of pit stockpile.

The current water level reading of the piezometer well was 222.40' from the ground surface, a decrease in water level of 0.95' from the previous quarter. The West Taylor Fill underdrain was freely flowing at the time of inspection.

No structural weakness, signs of instability, or other hazards were noted at the time of inspection.

**East Taylor Fill with C-C' Underdrain Area:** No activity other than rock crusher operations have taken place within the East Taylor fill during this quarter. Reclamation activity has been ongoing this quarter below the East Taylor fill. The toe of the fill is being trimmed at angle of repose on the west end and buttressed slightly on the east end. All water is directed away from the fill and into the West Pit.

No structural weakness, signs of instability, or other hazards were noted at the time of inspection.

Design requirements for the spoil pile are addressed in Volume 13, Exhibit 21, Item 1, Introductory Letter. Inspection requirements during construction are further detailed in Volume 12, Section 4.09.

I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Colorado. Being familiar with the Colowyo operation, and relying on the information provided to me by Colowyo Personnel, the construction activities related to the West and East Taylor Fill are in conformance, to the best of my knowledge and experience, as specified in the Introductory pages and the associated report found in Volume 13, Exhibit 21, Item 1, and other applicable requirements of the approved permit documents, a portion of CDRMS Permit C-1981-019.





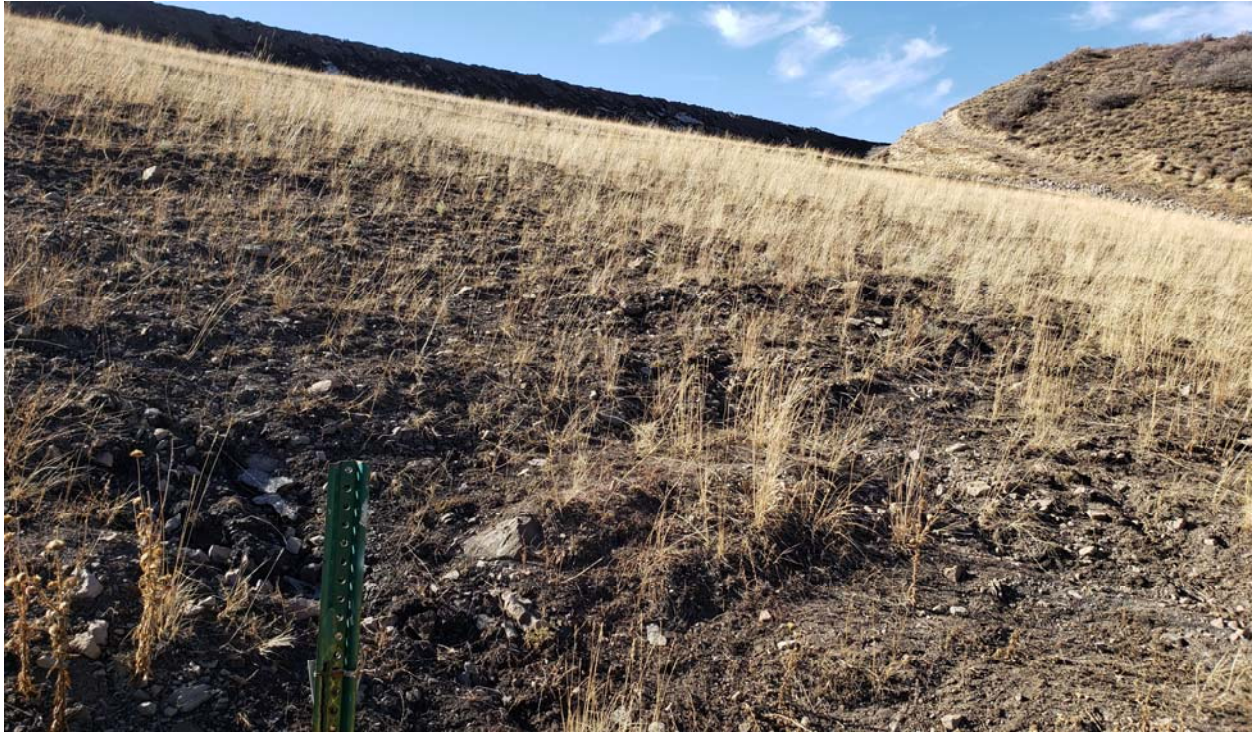


11-19-19 - West Taylor fill looking northwest from monitoring well location



11-19-19 - West Taylor fill looking northeast from monitoring well location





11-19-19 - West Taylor Fill West Flank from monitoring well location



11-19-19 - West Taylor Fill East Flank from monitoring well location



11-19-19 - East Taylor Fill looking south from the West Pit reclaimed area



**INSPECTION REPORT ~ SOUTH TAYLOR FILL**  
(Including Both the East Taylor and West Taylor Fill Segments)

INDICATE QUARTER → 1<sup>ST</sup> ☐ 2<sup>ND</sup> ☐ 3<sup>RD</sup> ☐ 4<sup>TH</sup> ☒ 2019  
YEAR

\* ALL QUARTERS NEED TO BE CERTIFIED \*

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE TO BE INSPECTED AND REPORTED AS NOTED:

- 1) Has any significant change been noted in the survey monuments on the fill?  
No NA Yes         
If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Survey: NA  
Reviewed By: NA
  
- 2) Has any significant change been noted in the water level found in the fill monitoring well?  
No X Yes        Measured Level 222.40 feet If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Measurement: 11/19/19  
Measured By: Brian Coates, Thomas Fry
  
- 3) Has there been any evidence of surficial slope failure on the face of the fill?  
No X Yes         
If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of P.E. Inspection: 11/19/19  
Inspected By: Brian Coates, Thomas Fry
  
- 4) Has there been any formation of springs or seeps on the face of the fill?  
No X Yes         
If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Inspection: 11/19/19  
Inspected By: Brian Coates, Thomas Fry



I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Colorado. Being familiar with the Colowyo operation, and relying on the information provided to me by Colowyo Personnel, the West and East Taylor Fill are observed to be stable, at the time of inspection. Construction activities related to the West and East Taylor Fill are in conformance, to the best of my knowledge and experience, as specified in the Introductory pages and the associated report found in Volume 13, Exhibit 21, Item 1, and other applicable requirements of the approved permit documents, a portion of CDRMS Permit C-1981-019.