



**Huddleston-Berry**  
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January 16, 2020  
Project#01349-0001

Bowie Resources, LLC  
43659 Bowie Road  
Paonia, Colorado 81428

Attention: Mr. Basil Bear

Subject: Summary of Instrumentation Monitoring  
4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019  
Bowie Coal Waste Disposal Area No. 3  
Paonia, Colorado

Reference: *Summary of Instrumentation Monitoring, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2019, Bowie Coal Waste Disposal Area No. 3, Paonia, Colorado* by Huddleston-Berry Engineering & Testing, LLC for Bowie Resources, LLC, October 16, 2019.

*Stability Evaluation, Gob Pile #3, Bowie No. 2 Mine* by Huddleston-Berry Engineering & Testing, LLC for Bowie Resources, LLC, July 15, 2014.

Dear Mr. Bear,

At the request of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS), Huddleston-Berry Engineering & Testing, LLC (HBET) prepared this letter regarding quarterly monitoring of vibrating wire piezometers at Coal Waste Disposal Area No. 3 (CWDA No. 3) at the Bowie mine near Paonia, Colorado. The intent of the monitoring was to detect significant changes in the pore water pressures within the coal waste which may impact the stability of the waste pile.

### **Vibrating Wire Piezometers**

Five vibrating wire piezometers were installed in CWDA No. 3 in October 2014. The piezometers were installed at three locations within the footprint of the gob pile. Monitoring of the functioning piezometers was completed by DOWL on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The attached monitoring report prepared by DOWL includes the piezometer monitoring data and the data is summarized in the following table.

VWP ID	Initial Pore Pressure 10/31/14 (psi)	09/30/19 Pore Pressure (psi)	12/12/19 Pore Pressure (psi)	Difference Since Installation (psi)	Difference Since Last Reading (psi)
VWP-A Deep	10.4	6.2	3.7	-6.7	-2.5
VWP-A Shallow	4.7	3.4	3.1	-1.6	-0.3
VWP-B Deep	0.2	3.7	0.3	+0.1	-3.4
VWP-B Shallow	13.9	9.3	9.1	-4.8	-0.2
VWP-D	7.1	4.9	4.8	-2.3	-0.1

## **Discussion of Vibrating Wire Piezometers**

### **VWP-A Deep**

VWP-A Deep was installed on October 6, 2014 near the northern edge of CWDA No. 3. VWP-A Deep was installed in the foundation soil approximately eight feet below the bottom of the gob. The pore pressures recorded at VWP-A Deep generally decreased since installation until September 2015. After that, the pore pressures fluctuated within a narrow range until the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters of 2019 where increases were reported. However, the recently measured pore pressure is back down near the level recorded 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018. In general, HBET believes HBET believes that the increases were due to active gob placement at CWDA No. 3 during 2019 and do not suggest any instability of CWDA No. 3.

### **VWP-A Shallow**

VWP-A Shallow was installed on October 6, 2014 near the northern edge of CWDA No. 3. VWP-A Shallow was installed approximately ten feet above the base of the gob. After installation, the pore pressures dropped until November 2014. Between November 2014 and September 2015, increases in the pore pressures were recorded at VWP-A Shallow. However, between September 2015 and December 2016, the pore pressures decreased. Since then, the data have fluctuated within a narrow range. In general, HBET does not believe that the pore pressure changes in VWP-A Shallow are an indication of instability in CWDA No. 3.

### **VWP-B Deep**

VWP-B Deep was installed on October 6, 2014 in the west-central portion of CWDA No. 3. VWP-B Deep was installed in the foundation soil approximately ten feet below the bottom of the gob. Since installation, the pore pressures recorded at VWP-B Deep have fluctuated within a narrow range. However, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter reading showed a significant increase in pore pressures. The measured pore pressure was 3.5 psi higher than at installation. However, the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter reading showed a pore pressure similar to that recorded 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018. In general, HBET believes HBET believes that the increases were due to active gob placement at CWDA No. 3 during 2019 and do not suggest any instability of CWDA No. 3.

### **VWP-B Shallow**

VWP-B Shallow was installed on October 6, 2014 in the west-central portion of CWDA No. 3. VWP-B Shallow was installed approximately ten feet above the base of the gob. Since installation, the pore pressures recorded at VWP-B Shallow have fluctuated with periods of slight increase and slight decrease. In general, HBET does not believe that the pore pressure changes in VWP-B Shallow are an indication of instability in CWDA No. 3.

### **VWP-D**

VWP-D was installed on October 7, 2014 in the east-central portion of CWDA No. 3. VWP-D was installed approximately ten feet above the base of the gob. Since installation, the pore pressures recorded at VWP-D have fluctuated. The pore pressures increase slightly during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2017. However, this likely reflects the activity at CWDA No. 3 during the monitoring period and the pore pressures have decreased since September 2017. In general, HBET does not believe that the pore pressure changes in VWP-D are an indication of instability in CWDA No. 3.

**General**

Based upon the results of the most recent VWP monitoring data, HBET does not believe that there is any reduction in the stability of CWDA No. 3.

We are pleased to be of service to your project. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Huddleston-Berry Engineering and Testing, LLC**



Michael A. Berry, P.E.  
Vice President of Engineering

**ATTACHMENTS**