



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Bowie #2 inspection report

1 message

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Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 4:44 PM

To: Basil Bear <basilbear@wolverinefuels.com>, Tamme Bishop <tamme.jestover@bresnan.net>

Hello, Basil

Here is my report from Wednesday. Notice that I have some items related to sediment control at the gob piles. We can discuss next week if you want.

Also, there are some weeds to spray. We already discussed the knapweed at Pond D, but I do not think that I mentioned the pepperweed at the Utility Bench. I needed to work on the identification.

Have a good weekend.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist II
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-083 Mine Name: Bowie No. 2 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Basil Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Basil Bear
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: August 12, 2020 Inspection Start Time: 11:00 Inspection End Date: August 12, 2020 Inspection End Time: 15:50	Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: <i>Robert D. Zuber</i> Signature Date: 8/14/2020

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

Y - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

R - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on August 12, 2020. Basil Bear of Wolverine Fuels (parent company of Bowie Resources, LLC, aka BRL) participated in a portion of the field inspection.

The weather was hot and clear, and the ground was dry.

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:

No problems were seen with ditches.

Five ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, and J. None of the ponds were discharging, and all but Pond J were dry or almost dry. Pond J held significant water, but it was well below the spillways. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other features of the ponds.

The Fire Mountain Canal (an irrigation ditch that runs through the Bowie No. 2 permit area but is owned by another party) appeared to be flowing full or nearly full. No significant water from seepage was observed, and the downhill bank (which acts like a levee protecting Gob Pile #3) appears stable at this time.

OTHER (SPECIFY):

Trash on site should be cleared. An example is the old pipe by Pond C.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11**Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:**

No puddles, large amounts of erosion, or other significant problems were seen with gob piles. This includes Gob Piles 1 – 4.

There remains some erosion on Gob Pile #2. As noted before, it is recommended that BRL address this erosion, per Rule 4.10.3(3). At the very least, this needs to be watched very closely. If the rills become larger, they should be addressed with erosion control BMPs. The sediment control BMPs below the upper part of Gob Pile #2 appeared to be functioning well. However, the sediment trap is too deep, and it should be kept at a smaller depth, preferably less than six inches, to reduce infiltration into the pile. The Division recommends that an additional row of straw bales or logs be placed in this area to offset the loss of sediment retention from the deeper sediment trap.

During the inspection, BRL's work on Gob Pile #3 was focused on the east side of this pile, the area that was used for drying material. They were spreading and compacting waste material, and Basil Bear was on top of the coverfill pile using survey equipment. Basil indicated that they plan to place and compact more than half of the remaining material during the remainder of 2020. Basil also indicated that in 2020 BRL plans to spread coverfill material on the west side of Gob Pile #3.

The steep portion of Gob Pile #3 appears stable, but the Division recommends the use of straw logs or other sediment BMP to prevent the waste material from leaving the pile (see PHOTOGRAPHS section).

ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

No significant problems were seen with the haul road to the portals. Although there is some road damage that presents a safety hazard, it is not currently an environmental issue. The steep hillsides above and below the haul road, appear stable.

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

Some weeds were seen during the inspection, including Russian knapweed by the Pond D discharge channel and possibly perennial pepperweed at the Utility Bench. Thistle above Pond F has apparently been sprayed to kill it.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

It appears that slumps have not moved significantly in the recent past. These include slumps by the B Portal and by Curve Number 11 along the Haul Road.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No problems were identified at the facility areas. All benches appeared stable with no signs of erosion beneath them.

The pad for the reclaimed Hubbard Creek Vent Shaft was inspected, and no erosion or other problems were identified. Mine ID signs were visible, and markers (boundary, stream buffer) were in place. Many healthy, small trees were growing at the site.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

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

No problems were seen at topsoil stockpiles or coverfill piles. Berms and vegetation are keeping this resource in place.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none

OTHER (SPECIFY) - none

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

PHOTOGRAPHS



West end of Gob Pile #3



Steep portion of Gob Pile #3, where erosion BMPs are recommended

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Gob Pile #1, Gob Pile #4, and surrounding area



Reclaimed pad at Hubbard Creek Vent Shaft

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Pond F with inlet channel



Pond D inlet and spillways

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Erosion at Gob Pile #2



Upper lift of Gob Pile #2

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



East end of Gob Pile #2, with re-built channel



Sediment sump on Gob Pile #2

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



B Portal, looking northwest



B Portal, looking west

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0



Slump at Curve 11



Utility Bench – white flowered plants are likely perennial pepperweed

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0