



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## Bowie #2 inspection report

1 message

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**Zuber - DNR, Rob** <rob.zuber@state.co.us>  
To: Basil Bear <basilbear@wolverinefuels.com>

Thu, Nov 19, 2020 at 4:20 PM

Basil -

Please see attached inspection report.

Regards,  
Rob

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



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

P 303.866.3567, extension 8113 | Cell 720.601.2276  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203  
[rob.zuber@state.co.us](mailto:rob.zuber@state.co.us) | <http://mining.state.co.us>



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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1996083\_RDZ\_11192020030141.pdf**  
882K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> November 17, 2020 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 07:40 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> November 17, 2020 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 12:30		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Robert Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature and Date:</b>   11/19/2020		

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

**R** - Air Resource Protection**R** - Availability of Records**NA** - Backfill & Grading**NA** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**R** - Fish & Wildlife**R** - Hydrologic Balance**Y** - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan**N** - Other**R** - Processing Waste**R** - Roads**R** - Reclamation Success**Y** - Revegetation**Y** - Subsidence**R** - Slides and Other Damage**R** - Support Facilities On-site**R** - Signs and Markers**NA** - Support Facilities Not On-site**Y** - Special Categories Of Mining**R** - Topsoil**COMMENTS**

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on November 17, 2020. Basil Bear of Bowie Resources, LLC (BRL) accompanied Rob to Gob Pile #3, but did not participate in the rest of the field inspection. He was available by cell phone to answer questions.

BRL continues to focus efforts on Gob Pile #3. Work on this pile was being performed during the inspection and entailed hauling soil from the eastern portion of the pile to the southwest corner.

Areas that were not inspected due to social distancing (due to Covid-19 disease): gob vent boreholes and the Terror Creek Vent Shaft (which are best accessed with BRL's All-Terrain Vehicle, not a good social distancing vehicle). These sites have been inspected by DRMS with aerial photographs, and this practice will continue in the foreseeable future.

The weather was very warm for November, and the ground was mostly dry, with mud in some shady areas.

**AIR RESOURCE PROTECTION – Rule 4.17:**

No issues with fugitive dust from roads or Gob Pile #3 were observed.

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):**

The records were found to be well organized and complete. A list of records is provided at the end of this report.

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

Many deer were seen around the lower portions of the mine site.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

**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 water was flowing in the Fire Mountain Canal, so seepage from this irrigation ditch was not occurring, as it has in the past. (Efforts by the canal company in 2020 will hopefully stop the seepage in 2021 when the canal is full again. This should be an ongoing focus of inspections by BRL and DRMS next year and beyond.)

No problems were seen with ditches. Ditch D-F7 that drains to Pond F was dry; the low spot near the top of the ditch is approximately four inches deep and not considered a significant problem (but should be monitored to determine if it fills in next spring or if it gets worse). The ditch below the old power plant (improved by BRL staff in September) was functioning to divert runoff to the Deer Trail Ditch. The ditch below Curve 11 is functioning but needs continual monitoring; it is an odd mix of concrete, rock, wood, and corrugated plastic creating the channel.

Six sediment ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, J, and K. None of the ponds were discharging, and all but Pond J were dry. Pond J held water, but it appeared to be just a few inches deep, well below the spillways. No significant problems were identified with embankments, spillways, inlet channels, or other features of the ponds.

**PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11**

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

Gob Piles #1 and #4 were viewed from below and from the Haul Road. Gob Pile #4 was also viewed from Gob Pile #2. They both looked stable and well vegetated.

The lower portion of Gob Pile #2 appeared stable. The drainage control practices on the upper portion of this pile appear to be functioning well.

As noted above, BRL's work on Gob Pile #3 during the inspection entailed hauling coverfill material from the eastern portion of the pile to the southwest corner. Much of the waste material in the drying area has been moved to the west side of the pile.

**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 problems were seen with the haul road to the portals or the hillsides above and below the haul road.

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**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

The reclaimed pad at the former Hubbard Creek Vent Shaft is in good shape (no erosion or weed patches were seen).

**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.

**SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:**

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

- The BMPs below the Pump House are functioning.
- The slopes near the Preparation Plant and nearby water tank are vegetated and stable.
- The SAEs adjacent to and below the Engineering Office are well vegetated and no erosion was seen.
- The slopes above and below the Coal Stockpile Pad are stable.
- The material storage area beside Topsoil Stockpile A is very stable.
- No erosion or other problems were seen along the conveyor corridors.
- The slope above the Utility Bench is stable.
- No erosion or other problems were identified with the eastern portion of the Unit Train Loadout, west of Pond K.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

No issues with signs and markers were noted. Disturbance markers, topsoil stockpile markers, and entrance signs were seen in many locations. At the Utility Bench, a sign warns of subsidence impacts along road to southwest.

**TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06**

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

At topsoil stockpiles and coverfill piles, berms, vegetation, and silt fence are keeping these resources in place. The silt fence around the soil pile west of Pond J is an example of excellent installation.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none****OTHER (SPECIFY) - none**

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### **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Gob Pile #3 and soil piles (taken from Gob Pile #2)**

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**Gob Pile #3 – waste material on east side of pile (drying area)**



**Gob Pile #3 – south end of drying area**

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**Gob Piles #1 and #4**



**Gob Pile #2**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2





**Pond F, soil pile, and southeast corner of Gob Pile #2**



**Ditch D-F7**

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**Road to Gob Pile #2**



**Reclaimed pad for Hubbard Creek Vent Shaft**

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**Gob Pile #2 – well graded upper portion**

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**Gob Pile #2 – temporary drainage ditches on upper portion**



**Gob Pile #2 – sump and other sediment BMPs**

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**Soil stockpile west of Pond J – excellent installation of silt fence**



**Haul Road below Curve 3**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2



**Area above Topsoil Stockpile A**



**Topsoil Stockpile A**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2





**B Portal - slump above portal is stable**



**Stable slump at Curve 11**

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**Slope below D Portal bench**



**Slope below Utility Bench**

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**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS****PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp. 4 April 2022
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN4, 20 Novmbr. 2017
Insurance Certificate	Expires 1 May 2021
Bond Documents	SEE COMMENT 1
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	SL2, 30 Decmbr. 2016
Air Emission Permits	98DL0726 Exp. 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA
UG Mining Landowner Notification	Several years
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	3Q 2020
Vegetation Monitoring Data	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2019
Midterm Review Documents	MT5, 3 October 2019
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions	Through October 2020
Transfers/Succession of Operator	10 August 2009
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2

**CERTIFICATIONS**

Pond Certifications	June 2020
Fill Certifications for Underground Development Waste	Vol. IV for Gob Pile #1
• Quarterly Inspections	3Q 2020
• Compaction Testing	July 2019
• Final Certification	NA
Certs. for Coal Processing Waste Banks	Vols IX, XI (Gob Piles 2, 3, 4)
Haul Road Certifications	Yes, 2013
Access Road Certifications	Map 15 series

**HYDROLOGIC RECORDS**

NPDES Permit	CO-0044776, Exp.Sept. 2024
NPDES Records (DMRs)	Through October 2020
Stormwater Management Plan	Revised January 2020
SPCC Plan	May 2013
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	2Q 2020
Annual Hydrology Reports	2019
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	NA

**BLASTING RECORDS**

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

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS  
(specify)**


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**COMMENTS:**

1. Bond documents entail five corporate sureties (Lexon Company) for total of \$10,971,057.58:
  - o Bond # 1071397 for \$3,154,277.10
  - o Bond # 1071402 for \$1,024,357.97
  - o Bond # 1071403 for \$2,500,000.00
  - o Bond # 1071404 for \$2,217,169.51
  - o Bond # 1071405 for \$2,075,253.00.
  
2. The RCE for MT-05 totaled \$10,149,223. Additional \$311 from TR-119.

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