



*"Safety as a Value"*

Telephone: 970.385.4528  
Facsimile: 970.385.4638

GCC Energy, LLC  
6473 County Road 120  
Hesperus, CO 81326

October 3, 2020

State of Colorado  
Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety  
1313 Sherman St., Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Janet Binns, Environmental Protection Specialist III

Re: King I Mine, C-1981-035  
Stoner Engineering: Quarterly Inspection: Refuse Pile  
3rd Quarter 2020

Dear Ms. Binns,

Please find enclosed a copy of Stoner Engineering's Quarterly Inspection report of the King I mine refuse pile/embankment for the 3rd quarter of 2020.

Please call Tom Bird at (970) 385-4528 x 6503 or (970) 769-1160 (cell) if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Bird'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Tom Bird  
GCC Energy, LLC

# Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Engineering, Testing & Surveying

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Jordan McCourt  
Project Coordinator  
GCC Energy, LLC  
6473 County Road 120  
Hesperus, CO 81326  
(970) 385-4528



From: Ryan Griglak, P.E.  
Project Manager  
Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Re: King Coal I – Quarterly Waste Pile/Embankment Inspection

On September 28, 2020, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King I Mine site to conduct the quarterly inspection of the coal waste pile/embankment. Mr. Griglak, P.E. has conducted inspections for the placement of earthwork/embankment fill material for numerous commercial, residential and municipal projects in which buildings, roadways and parking facilities were installed over the placed materials.

Both the south treated water ditch (Reach 10) and the north clear water ditch (Reach 1) were found to be in generally good condition. A portion of Reach 2 and Reach 13 have been reconstructed higher up the hillside (see Pic. 1). The face of the embankment appeared to be in good condition as there were no signs of excessive erosion, instability or weakness (see Pic. 2).

Waste material has been hauled from the base of the waste embankment pile to the top by front end loader (see Pic. 3). The slope of the top of the existing pile is currently in excess of that defined in the Waste Bank Design produced by Don May, 1997. Specifically, the cross slope from north to south across the top of the waste pile embankment. The haul road is in the process of being extended up the slope which will help facilitate the placement of additional fill material at the top of the pile which will reduce the existing slopes (see Pic. 4). The excess slope does not pose any danger to the stability of the existing waste pile though some localized erosion may occur during/after localized storm events.

The only structure with any proximity to the embankment material is the old bath house which is no longer utilized and is abandoned. Personnel are only on-site to bring and/or place material on the embankment or for mine rescue training. The mine rescue training is performed on the north side of the site well away from the embankment material. The site is closed to the public and there is a locked gate at the entrance to keep the public out.

The waste pile has been and continues to be constructed and maintained as specified in the design approved by the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety. Potential hazards to life and property are minimal due to the fact that GCC has moved most of their operations to their King II facility.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns in regards to the issues that are discussed above.

Sincerely,



Ryan M. Griglak, P.E.  
Project Manager





Pic. 1 –Portion of Reach 2 and Reach 13 reconstructed, old section left side of picture.



Pic. 2 – Face of waste pile in good condition.





Pic. 3 – Waste material being installed at top of waste embankment pile.



Pic 4 – Staking for the extension of haul road at top of pile.