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505.286.6026  
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April 1, 2021

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

Attn: Janet Binns, Environmental Protection Specialist III

Re: GCC Energy, LLC, King II Mine  
CDRMS Permit # C-1981-035  
Stoner Engineering: Quarterly Inspection: Water Quality Improvements  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021

Ms. Binns:

Please find enclosed a copy of Stoner Engineering's Quarterly Inspection report of the King I mine water quality improvements for the 1st quarter of 2021.

Please contact me at 505.238.8272 or svance@gcc.com if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah Vance", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Sarah Vance  
Environmental Manager  
GCC Energy, LLC

# Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Engineering, Testing & Surveying

Date: March 31, 2021

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 Water Quality Improvements Inspection

On March 30, 2021, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King I Mine site to conduct the quarterly inspection of the water quality features installed to prevent contaminated storm water runoff from escaping the site in events smaller than the 100-year storm event.

While both ponds were generally free of snow at the time of the inspection and appeared to generally be in good condition, they were wet and muddy (see Pic. 1). The sedimentation gages show the ponds are not yet it need of cleaning though they are near the required level (see Pic. 2). A large storm event could result in the sediment ponds reaching the level requiring the built-up sediment removed in order to continue to function as originally designed. The Surface Manager confirmed that the current plan is to clean out both ponds as soon as the weather improves and the ponds dry out and equipment can access the pond bottoms. The ponds should continue to be monitored after storm events to ensure that excess sediment does not reduce the required storage capacity available for storm water runoff.

The sedimentation traps at the entrance to the site are generally in good condition (see Pic. 3). There was no stockpiled material on the site at the time of the inspection (see Pic. 4). The grading of the lower waste embankment pile directs surface runoff generally to the south and west as required in the design documents. The replacement culvert located near the top of the main waste embankment pile under the haul road (at the new switchback) has been installed but the section of ditch from the outlet to the treated water ditch (Reach 10) has experienced some soil sloughing which requires maintenance to keep runoff flowing unrestricted (see Pic. 5).

The clear water and the treated water ditches appeared to be in generally good condition. There do not appear to be any issues with any of the ditches or culverts at the time of the inspection, with the exception of a section of the clean water ditch (Reach 1) located near the steeper section of the adjoining grade is in need of some maintenance/cleaning (see Pic. 6).

The drainage for the overall site appears to be functioning as designed. The drainage features have been constructed and will continue to function as stated in the drainage plan submitted to the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety once the ongoing maintenance work resulting from the significant snow accumulation has been completed.

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



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Pic. 1 – East pond.



Pic. 2 – West pond sediment gage appears near the required maintenance mark.





Pic. 3 – Sediment trap at driveway.



Pic. 4 – Lower waste embankment pile, not stockpiled material.



Pic. 5 – New switchback culvert with soil sloughing (downstream end).



Pic. 6 –Clean water ditch (Reach 1) with sediment.