



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

---

## Keenesburg inspection report

1 message

---

**Zuber - DNR, Rob** <rob.zuber@state.co.us>  
To: "Moline, Ben" <ben.moline@molsoncoors.com>

Wed, May 5, 2021 at 7:03 AM

Hello, Ben

Attached is the report from my inspection yesterday.

I am in the field this week, but if you want to talk about anything, give me a call or send an email, and I will get back to you when I can.

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://drms.colorado.gov>



**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981028\_RDZ\_05042021050852.pdf**  
1518K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-028 <b>Mine Name:</b> Keenesburg Strip Mine <b>Operator:</b> Coors Energy Company <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Ben Moline PO Box 4030 Golden, CO 80402	<b>County:</b> Weld <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> May 4, 2021 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 12:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> May 4, 2021 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Cloudy
<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:</b>  <i>Robert D. Zuber</i>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  5/4/2021

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill &amp; Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

NA - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

NA - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on May 4, 2021. No Coors Energy Company (CEC) representative was present at the inspection. The site is in Permanent Cessation. Reclamation activities were completed in the fall of 2020.

The weather was partly cloudy and cool. The ground was moist from a large rain event the day before. A couple areas on the Long Term Spoil area had puddles that were each approximately 200 square feet.

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

Frogs and birds were heard around the ponds. One coyote was seen near the southwest corner of the site. One antelope was spotted walking along the west side of the site.

**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:

Sediment Pond 2 and the Dugout Pond contained significant amounts of water, but levels were several feet below spillways. Neither pond was discharging during the inspection. There were no signs that they had discharged recently. As usual, they both contained large amounts of riparian vegetation. No problems were observed with the two ponds.

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

The northern boundary of the site (including the ditch to Sediment Pond 2) was observed, and no signs of pollutant loading from the mine site, or any other problems, were seen.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

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

Shallow erosion was seen on large areas of the recently reclaimed B Pit area and the Long Term Spoil Area. This movement of soil may well have washed seeds and seedlings of grass and other desired species off of significant areas of the reclamation. These areas could also become problematic if rills develop after future storms. The area may need to be re-seeded, and it may be beneficial to employ erosion prevention practices in these areas.

Another issue appears to be the movement of sand by wind. Portions of Area 33 (south central part of site) and Area 25 (west of the Dugout Pond) have been covered with sand. These areas should be monitored to see if the vegetation emerges from below the sand.

Most of the mature reclamation held up well during recent winds and runoff. This includes the majority of the areas impacted by wind (Area 33 and Area 25 mentioned above), Area 34 (southeast corner), and the parcels south of the B Pit area.

The area southeast of the Dugout Pond (a relatively steep hill) was found to be stable.

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15**

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Grasses in the reclaimed areas are beginning to green, and small seedlings were observed.

**SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:**

No problems were seen at the facilities area.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

The entrance sign still lacks contact information for DRMS, but the address for Coors Energy has been updated.

**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: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Sediment Pond 2 (on right) and reclaimed road**



**North side of site, looking northwest**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Emerging vegetation on reclaimed topsand pile (north side)**



**Mature reclamation south of the B Pit area**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Erosion on Long Term Spoil Area**



**Erosion on south end of the B Pit area**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Area 33 on left (area on right is outside current permit)**



**Sand blown onto east side of Area 33**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Sand blown onto west side of Area 25**



**Reclaimed topsand south of facilities area**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 8

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3