



STATE OF
COLORADO

Ebert - DNR, Jared <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

New Elk Mine, C-1981-012, 2Q 2021 Waste Pile Inspection Report Review

1 message

Ebert - DNR, Jared <jared.ebert@state.co.us>

Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 2:33 PM

To: larrycookconsulting@yahoo.com

Cc: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>, Daniel Cunningham - DNR <daniel.cunningham@state.co.us>

Hello Mr. Cook,

Please see the attached review letter.

Jared

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Jared Ebert

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

***I am working remotely, please feel free to call my cell at (720) 413-6466**



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

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1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

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2Q2021_NewElkMine_C1981012_WastePileReview_4Aug2021.pdf

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

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

August 4, 2021

New Elk Coal Company
Attn: Larry Cook
12250 Highway 12
Weston, Colorado 81091

RE: New Elk Mine, C-1981-012
Second Quarter 2021, Coal Waste Pile(s) Inspection Report Review

Dear Mr. Cook:

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS or Division) received a quarterly inspection report for the three coal waste banks at the New Elk Mine on July 6, 2021. The report covers the second quarter, 2021 monitoring period. The site was inspected on June 30, 2021. The report appears to be in compliance with DRMS Regulations 4.09.1(11) and 4.10.2(2), unless noted below.

Development Waste Disposal Area No. 1 (DWDA No. 1) was inspected. This feature was reclaimed in 2004, and waste was not disposed on this site during this quarter. No issues were noted.

Development Waste Disposal Area No. 2 (DWDA No. 2) was inspected. According to the report this pile was idle at the time of the inspection. Also, according to the report refuse placement has been completed at the DWDA No. 2 but the west end of the pile is used to dry sediment before it is hauled to the Refuse Disposal Area. The report indicates compaction tests were last completed in 2012 and that no refuse placement has occurred since May of 2012. Some surface erosion was noted but was judged to be insignificant and should not impact stability of the pile. No other issues were noted.

The Refuse Disposal Area (RDA) was inspected. According to the report the mine has only intermittently transported waste from temporary storage piles to the RDA. The Division understands New Elk Coal Company, LLC. (NECC) has begun production again and therefore will be placing refuse on the pile during future production. The reports indicates testing has been conducted demonstrating the operation has achieved an excess of 90% compaction. As NECC continues production and begins to place additional refuse on the RDA, please submit copies of the tests documenting the required compaction has occurred in accordance with Rule 4.10.2(2)(b). Three monitoring wells were monitored for water levels.

The inspection was conducted by Vince Massarotti under the direction of Steve Miller a registered professional engineer licensed in the State of Colorado. The inspection report was stamped by Mr. Miller and dated July 2, 2021.



If you have any questions feel free to contact me at (303) 866-3567, extension 8120.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jared Ebert", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jared Ebert

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

EC: Nick Mason, NECC
Daniel Cunningham, DRMS