



PERMIT INFORMATION

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

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: August 5, 2021 Inspection Start Time: 08:15 Inspection End Date: August 5, 2021 Inspection End Time: 10:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts: 	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts: 	
Inspector(s): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: <i>Robert D. Zuber</i>		Signature Date: 8/5/2021

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish & 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 complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on August 5, 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 hot, and the air was smoky from wildfires in the Western U.S. The ground was dry.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were not complete (or they are not all in an obvious place in the office). The SL-10 findings (including the Reclamation Cost Estimate) were missing. Routine inspection reports were not updated, including the monthly DRMS inspection reports, pest and weed reports, and pond inspection reports. This problem needs to be addressed by October 1, 2021 at the latest.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Many birds were seen and heard around the ponds.

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 small amounts of water. 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. The embankment at Sediment Pond 2 was thick with vegetation, but no shrubs or trees were seen on this structure (which is good because shrubs and trees can compromise the structural integrity of an embankment). No problems were observed with the two ponds.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

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.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No erosion problems were seen at the site. (It should be noted that tall sunflowers and kochia prevented a close inspection of much of the Long Term Spoil Area, where erosion was seen earlier in 2021.) Some large bare spots were seen on reclaimed roads, at the northwest corner of the Long Term Spoil Area, and at the south end of B Pit.

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

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15**Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

Sunflowers and undesirable species (cheat grass, kochia, and pigweed) are the predominant species in some of the newly reclaimed areas. These include the reclaimed road adjacent to Sediment Pond 2, reclaimed topsand piles, and the southern part of the Long Term Spoil Area. The undesirable species were predominant in other areas as well (e.g., south end of Area 25). Grasses were sparse at many newly reclaimed areas.

Good grass stands were seen in some areas, including the northeast corner of B Pit area and the older reclamation south and southeast of B Pit area (Areas 31, 32, and 33). Other desirable species onsite included several Rocky Mountain Bee Plants.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No problems were identified at the facilities area. People and equipment were seen on site, and the people appeared to be affiliated with the adjacent ranch.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The updated entrance sign includes contact information for DRMS.

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



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Reclaimed road west of Sediment Pond 2 (sparse grass)



Rocky Mountain Bee Plant at north side of permit area

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Northwest corner of Long Term Spoil Area (very bare)



Northeast corner of reclaimed B Pit (good grass stand)



Reclaimed B Pit – older reclamation on right

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Area 32 (foreground) and Area 31 (background)



South portion of Long Term Spoil Area – kochia and pigweed are dominant species

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp. Nov 2021
Permit Application w/Revisions	pending
Findings Document	RN-07 (Aug 2017)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. 11/1/2021
Bond Document	\$1,197,459 (March 2016)
Phased Bond Release	SL-09
Documents/Findings	(August 2018)
Air Emission Permits	123008803
County Special Use Permits	Weld #1160, #386
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2020 ARR
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2020
Midterm Review Documents	MT-07 (May 2019)
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	September 2020
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	MT-07 *1
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	Yes
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	NA
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	NA
NPDES Records	NA
Stormwater Management Plan	NA
SPCC Plan	Updated 2012
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	Through 2020 Q3
Annual Hydrology Reports	2020
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	NA
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	*2

BLASTING RECORDS

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

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

Pest and Weed report	Recent years not found

COMMENTS:

*1 RCE in April 2019 for \$1,206,911

*2 Domestic use well and fire protection well (048289f, 24650f)

*3 No explosives used since 1995.

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