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September 22, 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: Refuse Pile  
3rd Quarter 2021

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 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 that reads "Sarah Vance".

Sarah Vance  
Environmental Manager  
GCC Energy, LLC

# Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Engineering, Testing & Surveying

Date: September 21, 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 Waste Pile/Embankment Inspection

On September 16, 2021, 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.

The south treated water ditch (Reach 10) and the south clear water ditch (Reach 1) appeared to be in generally good condition (see Pic. 1). There was some erosion from the recent storms at the northwest corner of the lower embankment pile along the east side of the haul road. If not addressed, this could result in excessive erosion, instability, sloughing or weakness (see Pic. 2). There was also erosion located at the southwest corner of the main waste embankment pile at the seam between the waste pile and the existing mountain (see Pic. 3). The erosion control measures at this location have been covered with sediment as a result of the erosion in this location. The erosion control measures should be re-established to prevent excessive erosion at this location.

There has been minimal placement of additional waste material at the top of the main waste embankment pile since the previous inspection. There does not appear to be significant additional material installed on the lower pile either. The slope of the top of the existing pile is now closer to that defined in the Waste Bank Design produced by Don May, 1997.

The face of the embankment appeared to be in generally good condition. There were no signs of excessive erosion, instability, sloughing or weakness observed on the face of the embankment of either of the waste embankment piles at the time of the inspection (see Pic. 4).



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The only structure with any proximity to the embankment material is the old, abandoned bath house which is no longer utilized and a newly installed, temporary fueling/fuel storage station. A temporary construction/project office trailer has been located in the area of the mine rescue training area (south of the east sediment pond). The job trailer is located 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 and the temporary construction office is located away from the waste embankment pile.

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 –Reach 10 treated water channel in good condition.



Pic. 2 – Erosion between haul road/NW corner of lower waste pile.

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Pic. 3 – Erosion at SW corner of main waste pile at top.



Pic 4 – Face of the main waste pile in good condition.