



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

**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-018 <b>Mine Name:</b> Deserado Mine <b>Operator:</b> Blue Mountain Energy, Inc. <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Kurtis Blunt 3607 County Road 65 Rangely, CO, 81648	<b>County:</b> Moffat, Rio Blanco <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Kurt Blunt
<b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> November 3, 2021 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 11:10 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> November 3, 2021 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 12:50		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  None	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>  None	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Clayton Wein	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <i>Clayton Wein</i>		<b>Signature Date:</b>  11/8/2021

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Deserado Mine, C-1981-018, conducted on November 3, 2021. The inspection was completed by Clayton Wein of the Division. Kurt Blunt represented Blue Mountain Energy, Inc. (BME) during the inspection. The weather started off with foggy conditions that gave way to clear skies. The temperature was 40 degrees F. Ground conditions at the site were wet and muddy. Due to the muddy conditions, access to some areas of the Mine was limited.

**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:

The three ponds located at the main facilities area were inspected. The DP-1 pond is located on the lower bench. The pond treats all runoff from the main facilities area. The pond was impounding water during the inspection. Discharge from the primary spillway was observed (Photo 1). The trash rack on the spillway was clear of debris and in good repair. The embankment for the pond was stable with vegetative cover. There were no indications of erosion. The PP-1 pond is located on the middle bench within the prep plant facility. The pond was holding some water. The pond had been cleaned since the previous Division inspection. The embankments were stable with no erosional features noted. There was no discharge from the pond. The PP-2 pond is located on the upper facilities bench. The pond was holding water and covered with algae. The outlet for the pond was unobstructed, with no discharge. The embankment was vegetated and stable. There were no erosional features identified.

There are two ponds located at the north side of the Slot Storage facility. The SS-1 pond is located to the north of the facility. The pond was holding a small amount of water. The water in the pond had not reached the level of the primary spillway. The culvert inlet to the pond was clear of debris. The embankments for the pond were stable with vegetative cover. No indications of erosion were spotted. The SS-2 pond is located to the northwest of the facility. The pond was damp and muddy in the bottom. No discharge from the pond was occurring. The embankment was stable and covered with vegetation. There were no erosional features noted.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

The B Seam Dewatering System No. 1 was impounding water in all of its cells during the inspection. The cells of the system create an artificial wetland to help treat water pumped from the B coal seam workings. The Last Chance Pond is the final cell in the system. Water was discharging into Red Wash during the inspection. The embankments of the cells were observed to be stable with vegetative cover. There were no erosional features.

The Raw Water Lagoon is located in the southern portion of the permit boundary, just north of the White River. The lagoon was full at the time of the inspection (Photo 3). The Embankment had no indications of instability or erosion. The embankment had sufficient vegetative cover.

#### PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11

##### Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

At the time of the inspection refuse was actively being placed and spread on the RP-2/3/4 pile. Refuse generally takes a little longer this time of the year to dry before compaction can occur. The RP-2/3/4 pile was observed from the south side of the pile due to limited road access. The pile appeared to be stable with no erosional concerns. The RP-5a refuse pile was observed from the same location as the RP-2/3/4 pile. The 5a pile was stable and no erosional features were identified. The RP-A refuse pile is located to the southwest of the other two piles. Work to build the base of the RP-A pile has continued. The site was observed from the haul road. The site was stable and there were no erosional concerns noted.

#### ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

Throughout the inspection of the mine site, the haul road and access roads were soft and muddy. The haul road was well maintained and stable. **The ditch in-between the section of the haul road paralleling the mine entrance road needs to be cleaned. Sediment had filled the sediment traps and begun to fill in some portions of the ditch. Please clean this ditch as soon as conditions permit.** The ditch still has some capacity and was functioning as designed. There were no sections of the ditch that had runoff escape from it. Access roads taken during the inspection were in good condition and stable. There were no erosional features identified.

#### REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

##### Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The topsoil and Subsoil piles located to the northeast of the RP-A refuse pile were inspected from the haul road. The piles were observed to be stable with vegetative cover. There were no erosional features identified.

#### SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

Support facilities inspected included; Explosives Storage, Main Facilities Area, B Seam Vent Shaft No. 1 (Photo 2), Rock Dust Tank No. 2, N12-53 Pad, LWB15-2 Pad, Slot Storage, Nitrogen Plant No. 2 and the Conveyor Corridor. Pads for the support facilities inspected were stable with no erosional concerns. Pads with cut and fill slopes were stable with no indications of sloughing. Berms on the pads were vegetated and stable. No off site impacts were observed.

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**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

Topsoil markers were identified on top of the topsoil piles located throughout the mine site. The markers are white poles on top of each pile.

**Maintenance Items**

- 1. The ditch in-between the section of the haul road paralleling the mine entrance road needs to be cleaned. Sediment had filled the sediment traps and begun to fill in some portions of the ditch. Please clean this ditch as soon as conditions permit.**

**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.

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## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** The outlet of the DP-1 Pond.



**Photo 2:** The B Seam Vent Shaft No. 1 pad.

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**Photo 3:** The Raw Water Lagoon Looking to the west.

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