



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Lorencito Canyon Mine, C-1996-084, December 8, 2021 Inspection Report

1 message

Ebert - DNR, Jared <jared.ebert@state.co.us>
To: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>

Thu, Dec 9, 2021 at 11:52 AM

Hello Nick,

Please see the attached inspection report. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-084 Mine Name: Lorencito Canyon Mine Operator: New Elk Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Mark Gray 12250 Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	County: Las Animas Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Permanent Cessation Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Vince Massorotti
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: December 8, 2021 Inspection Start Time: 11:45 Inspection End Date: December 8, 2021 Inspection End Time: 13:45		Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts: None	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts: None	
Inspector(s): Jared Ebert	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 12/9/2021

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 & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the Lorencito Canyon Mine, Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS or Division) permit number C-1996-084, operated by New Elk Coal Company, LLC (NECC). I, Jared Ebert with DRMS conducted the inspection. Vince Massorotti with NECC accompanied me during the inspection. Maintenance items are in bold text below.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Fill 008 was observed. The fill is well vegetated and appears stable. No hazardous conditions or instability issues were observed. Drainage Ditches D84 and D83 were walked. These are steep, rock lined, channels. Overall these channels appeared stable and functional. Several steep slopes were observed in the channel. NECC monitors these channels and conducts maintenance of them periodically.

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:

Ditch D86 was observed. No problems were noted.

Ditch D15 was observed. Overall this ditch is maintained and functional. Some side cutting of the ditch was noted at the bottom of the ditch near where it connects to culvert C12. **NECC will need to conduct some repairs of this area to stabilize the ditch.**

Culverts C9, C10, C11 and C12 was observed. **The inlet of culvert C10 needs to be cleaned out.**

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

An area reported to have been revegetated in 2004, 2005, and 2006 located west of Fill 008 was observed. This area consists of the side of rounded peak, and the aspect of the reclaimed area is east. The vegetation consisted of a diverse number of grasses, forbs and shrubs. Several small rills were observed on the steeper portions of the slope of the peak. Mr. Massorotti indicated that brush would be placed in these rills to help stabilize them.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED – None

OTHER (SPECIFY) - None

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

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: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1. Ditch D83 on the south side looking north.



Figure 2. Fill 008

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2



Figure 3. 2004, 2005 and 2006 revegetated area. From the east side looking west.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2