




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

**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-035 <b>Mine Name:</b> King Coal Mine <b>Operator:</b> GCC Energy, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Jordan McCourt 6473 County Road 120 Hesperus, CO 81326	<b>County:</b> La Plata <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Wade Wymore
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> December 7, 2021 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 09:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> December 7, 2021 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:00		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Snowing	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>  	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Janet Binns	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  12/13/2021		
	<b>Signature Date:</b>  		

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

R - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

NA - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

Y - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection conducted by Janet Binns of CDRMS. Mr. Wade Wymore of GCC Energy LLC accompanied the inspection. The mine site was damp and had received a mixture of rain and snow during the night. About 1" of patchy snow was present in the undisturbed portions of the mine. The facilities area and outlying areas were damp, but with out standing water.

A thin snow cover was still present at the King I facilities area.

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

Deer tracks were noted on the Pond 1 embankment. No Mule deer were encountered on the mine site at the time of the inspection.

**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; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18:

At King I, the operator has cleaned sediment out of the ditch west of the shop building and increased the height of the berm to assure runoff coming off the haul road/lower refuse area is contained within the ditch and flows to the West pond. This repair is adequate.

GCC had been in the process of cleaning sediment from the West pond at King I when precipitation events made conditions too soft. The operator has left the breach in the embankment open for access to clean additional sediment should conditions allow. This access to the pond is blocked with orange traffic cones for safety and is at the inlet end of the pond and should not limit water storage in the West Pond. The material that GCC was able to clean from the pond allows for adequate storage for the pond at this time.

GCC was successful in cleaning sediment from the East Pond at King I. Adequate storage is available in the East pond.

Ditches at King I were in good repair and functioning well. The upper Refuse pile was not accessed.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

Weeminuche Contractors are keeping activities within the sediment control system.

SAE's along the access road to King I were cleaned of sediment if capacity was needed. All the sediment traps along the roadway appeared to be adequate to contain runoff/melt-off from the road.

Pond 1 at King II facilities was in good condition and was holding a shallow pool of water at the riser structure. The water level was near the bottom of the concrete support for the riser pipe. Adequate storage remains in this pond. The pond embankments were well vegetated.

The cattle guard/Clearwater drainage at the entrance to the King II facilities was clear able to function adequately. Internal drainage at the King II facilities were functioning well, with no ponded water within the working area of the facilities.

Sediment control at the Old Barn access road are is well managed and maintained. Adequate storage was observed on the uphill side of the hay bales at the silt fencing north of County Road 120. Road material is stored at the old Barn area within the sediment control system. There was no evidence that runoff from the road had bypassed the sediment control system. It appears that runoff from the road and work area has been adequately contained and managed.

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

GCC is not placing material on the Upper RDA during the winter months, and not driving up the haul road to the upper RDA. This practice reduces wear and tear on the road, and allows GCC to focus on placement and management of the Lower RDA.

Waste material was placed in windrows on the east side of the lower RDA, ready to be spread and compacted. GCC is working on adding material to the west side of the lower RDA to keep the slope of the pile within the design specifications and control the runoff off the pile. This management of the lower RDA is progressing. The operator has armored the gully on the west side of the lower RDA with large rocks. Re-establishment of the berm remains to be completed to avoid runoff from short circuiting the rocked drainage-way.

#### 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):

The Access road to the low cover crossing at the Old Barn area is regularly graded, especially after precipitation events. The runoff from the low cover crossing (LCC) access road is reporting to the designed sediment traps. Activity in this area is staying within the sediment control system. The contractor maintains the traffic signaling and the radio contact for this single lane roadway. No problems or maintenance items were identified in this area.

#### SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

Battery storage, Fuel storage, and other trash at the facilities areas are stored appropriately. Small barrels in a roll-off on the north end of Pond 1 is reaching its storage capacity. The operator needs to assure that material

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isn't falling out of the roll-off container. (photo 10: yellow roll-off)

**TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06**

Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3:

At the King I facilities area the contractor has placed gravel/road material on the east side of the facilities area adjacent to GCC's topdressing/Topsoil stockpile. The road material is placed against the berm around the topsoil stockpile. The contractor needs to move this material away from the top of the berm, maintain the berm and avoid contamination of the "topsoil" material. GCC need to assure that the contractor conforms with the permit designs.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED** NA

**OTHER (SPECIFY)** NA

**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: KI-reinforced berm west of warehouse



Photo 2: Lower RDA looking eastward



Photo 3: KI facilities, fuel tanks with secondary containment



Photo 4: KI-West pond, sediment removal



Photo 5: material stored upslope of sediment fence at Old Barn area. Looking northeast

Photo 6: Old Barn area, LPCR 120 on L side of photo  
Silt fence and hay bale sediment control in good repair. Looking southwestNumber of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2





Photo 7: Low cover crossing access road



Photo 8: Sediment trap at bottom of LCC access road  
As road opens up to Old Barn work area



Photo 9: KII facilities, old batteries stored in secondary containment



Photo 10: Roll-off with small barrels at KII



Photo 11: KII Pond 1 water pool at riser



Photo 12: KII Clean coal stockpile

end of report

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