




### PERMIT INFORMATION

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

### INSPECTION INFORMATION

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> April 14, 2022 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:45 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> April 14, 2022 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 12:45	<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>  Connor Drinkard  Jared Ebert	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  April 19, 2022

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection	N - Roads
N - Availability of Records	N - Reclamation Success
R - Backfill & Grading	N - Revegetation
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	N - Subsidence
N - Explosives	N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Fish & Wildlife	N - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	N - Signs and Markers
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Other	N - Special Categories Of Mining
N - Processing Waste	N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Lorencito Cayon 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, Connor Drinkard and Jared Ebert with DRMS conducted the inspection. Mr. Nick Mason accompanied us during the inspection. Vince Massarotti with NECC was aware of the inspection.

Maintenance items are in orange text below.

There are no pending permitting actions. However, the permit for the site will expire on November 7, 2022. In order to ensure that NECC may continue operating the mine beyond that date, a complete application for renewal of the permit must be received at least 180 days prior to its expiration (Rule 2.08.5(3)(f)). Therefore, a complete application would be required on or before May 11, 2022.

**BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14**

Contemporaneous Reclamation 4.14.1; Approximate Original Contour 4.14.2; Highwall Elimination 4.14.1(2)(f); Steep Slopes 4.14.2, 4.27; Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials 4.14.3; Stabilization of Rills and Gullies 4.14.6:

Fill 007 was overall stable and vegetated but several erosion features were observed that should be monitored and addressed. These include a rill near where Ditch D76 enters Fill 007.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Figure 1. Fill 7 western drainage looking southwest.**

Fill 009 was overall stable and vegetated but several erosion features were observed that should be monitored and addressed. These include an animal hole on the face of Fill 009 northeast of where Ditch D75 enters the fill area on the inter-bench embankment. Vegetation was sparse in this area, and NECC should either stabilize the area or monitor it to ensure future rills and gullies will not form at this location.



**Figure 2. Animal hole in embankment of bench on Fill 009 near where Ditch D75 enters the fill.**

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**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 D1 and Ditch D96 were inspected and found to be stable.

Erosion was observed on Ditch D14 where it discharges into Ditch D96. NECC will need to stabilize this area that has steep and eroding sides.



**Figure 3. Drainage ditch D14 where it discharges into D96.**

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**Figure 4. Drainage ditch D14, side cutting erosion observed. Photo of where D14 discharges to D96.**

Culvert 2 appeared clear and functional. Pond 009 was holding water but not discharging. The embankment appeared stable.



**Figure 5. Culvert 2 and Pond 009 looking northeast.**

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Pond 009a was holding a small amount of water but did not appear to be discharging. The embankment appeared stable.



**Figure 6. Pond 009a looking north.**

Ditch D4 was inspected and found to be stable.



**Figure 7. Ditch D4 looking west.**

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Ponds 006a and 007a were holding water but not discharging. The embankments appeared stable.



**Figure 8. Pond 006a.**

Erosion was observed outside of branches placed in Ditch D7 north east of Pond 006a. Please monitor and address appropriately as needed.



**Figure 9. Ditch D7 looking north.**

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**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED – None**

**OTHER (SPECIFY) – None**

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

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