



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

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## Keenesburg Strip Mine inspection report

1 message

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**Zuber - DNR, Rob** <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Fri, Mar 17, 2023 at 8:04 AM

To: "Moline, Ben" <ben.moline@molsoncoors.com>

Hi, Ben

Please see the attached report. Also, please update the records in the next 2 - 3 weeks. The bold items in the list of records indicate where the documents at the onsite office are not current.

Thanks,  
Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

***I am working remotely and can be reached by cell at 720.601.2276.***

**Physical Address:**

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

**Mailing Address:**

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215  
1001 East 62nd Avenue  
Denver, CO 80216

[rob.zuber@state.co.us](mailto:rob.zuber@state.co.us) | <http://drms.colorado.gov>



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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981028\_RDZ\_03162023045528.pdf**  
2005K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-028 <b>Mine Name:</b> Keenesburg Strip Mine <b>Operator:</b> Coors Energy Company <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Ben Moline P.O. Box 4030 Golden, CO 80402	<b>County:</b> Weld <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> March 13, 2023 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 08:40 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> March 13, 2023 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 10:15	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear
<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>  Robert Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <i>Robert D. Zuber</i>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  3/17/2023

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill &amp; Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

NA - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

NA - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on March 13, 2023. No Coors Energy Company (CEC) representative was present at the inspection.

The site is in Permanent Cessation. Reclamation activities were completed in the fall of 2020. However, due to poor success in some areas, Coors Energy reclaimed these areas a second time in spring 2022.

The weather was clear and cool (24 deg F at start). The ground was dry.

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):**

The records were lacking several documents. For example, the insurance certificate in the binder in the CEC office is expired.

Please see the list of records below.

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

An owl and other birds were seen at and near Sediment Pond 2.

**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:

Sediment Pond 2 and the Dugout Pond contained little to no water (thick vegetation obscures the bottoms). They were not discharging during the inspection. There were no signs that either pond had discharged recently. No problems were observed.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

The northern boundary of the site (east side) was observed, and no signs of pollutant loading from the mine site, or any other problems, were seen.

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

No erosion problems were seen onsite, and nearly the entire site was inspected. Bare spots were seen in some areas. The steep area east of the Dugout Pond was stable.

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15**

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The older reclamation continues to look good. In particular, the southwest corner of the site (namely Area 30) looks good.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

The entrance sign was in place and contained all necessary information. Boundary markers were seen on all sides of the site.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none**

**OTHER (SPECIFY) - none**

**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: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Area 25, looking north**



**Reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area, looking northwest at southeast corner**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





**Area 31, on left. and Area 32 on right**



**Western side of site, with undisturbed area on left (looking north)**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Area 35, south end of reclaimed B Pit**



**Area 24, looking north**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3





**Northern boundary of site, looking west**



**South end of Dugout Pond and Area 38 (reclaimed topsand pile)**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS****PERMIT RECORDS****DRMS Permit**

Permit Application w/Revisions

**Findings Document****Insurance Certificate****Bond Document**

Phased Bond Release

Documents/Findings

Air Emission Permits

County Special Use Permits

UG Mining Landowner Notification

Subsidence Monitoring Reports

Subsidence Monitoring Data

Rill &amp; Gully Survey

Vegetation Monitoring Data

Specific Variance Approvals

Annual Reclamation Reports

Midterm Review Documents

**DRMS/OSM Inspection****Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Yrs)**

Transfers/Succession of Operator

Temporary Cessation Notification

Reclamation Cost Estimate

**CERTIFICATIONS**

Pond Certifications

Annual Certifications for Large  
ImpoundmentsFill Certifications for Excess Spoil or  
Underground Development Waste

• Quarterly Inspections

• Compaction Testing

• Final Certification

Coal Processing Waste Banks

Haul Road Certifications

Access Road Certifications

**Exp. 11/3/2021**

yes

**RN-07 (Aug 2017)****Exp. 11/1/2022****\$1,197,459****(2016, not current)**

SL-11

(12/1/2022)

123008803

Weld #1160, #386

NA

NA

NA

NA

2021 ARR

NA

2021

MT-07 (May 2019)

**Through****December 2022**

NA

NA

\*1

Yes

NA

NA

NA

NA

NA

NA

NA

NA

**HYDROLOGIC RECORDS**

NPDES Permit

NPDES Records

Stormwater Management Plan

SPCC Plan

MSHA Pond Inspections

State Engineer's Pond Inspection

**Quarterly Pond Inspections**

Annual Hydrology Reports

• Ground Water Monitoring

• Surface Water Monitoring

• Spring &amp; Seep Monitoring

• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring

• Mine Inflow Study

• Water Consumption Records

Well Permits

NA

NA

NA

Updated 2012

NA

NA

**10/11/2022**

2021

yes

NA

NA

NA

NA

NA

\*2

**BLASTING RECORDS**

Blasting Publication

Blasting Records (3 years)

ATFE Explosives Permit

Blasting Variances

Pre-Blast Surveys

NA

NA

NA \*3

NA

NA

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)****Pest and Weed report****10/31/2022****COMMENTS:**

\*1 RCE is \$818,406 (SL-11)

\*2 Domestic use well and fire protection well (048289f, 24650f)

\*3 No explosives used since 1995.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3