



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

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## Foidel Creek Mine Inspection Report

1 message

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Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

Tue, Apr 4, 2023 at 10:29  
AM

To: "Kawcak, Miranda" <mkawcak@peabodyenergy.com>

Miranda,

Please see the attached March inspection report for the Foidel Creek Mine, C-1982-056. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Hunter Ridley  
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

P 720.868.7757 | F 303.832.8106

Physical: 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

Mailing: DRMS Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

[hunter.ridley@state.co.us](mailto:hunter.ridley@state.co.us) | <https://drms.colorado.gov>




**Foidel\_March\_CP.pdf**  
2271K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1982-056 <b>Mine Name:</b> Foidel Creek Mine <b>Operator:</b> Twentymile Coal, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Ms Miranda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road No. 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Kevin Copeland
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> March 30, 2023 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 09:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> March 30, 2023 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:30		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear/Cloudy	
<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>  Hunter Ridley  Michael Cunningham	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  		<b>Signature Date:</b>  4/4/2023

**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

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

R - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

Y - Revegetation

R - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

Y - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Foidel Creek Mine; DRMS Permit No. C-1982-056, operated by Twentymile Coal, LLC. (TC). This inspection was conducted by Hunter Ridley and Michael Cunningham with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division). Kevin Copeland of TC accompanied the inspection.

**Please address the Bold items below.**

MR322 was issued by the Division on 10/25/2022 and approved the relocation of an internal road. This new road is set to be constructed in the Spring of 2023. RN-08 has been extended to a decision date of May 5, 2023 and is currently in progress with the Division.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS—Rule 4.02**

Mine identification markers were observed throughout the site (Photo 1 and 2). Topsoil piles were marked. All information for compliance was present. The missing phone number information on mine signs for HG Loadout and Peabody Sage Creek Mine (see related inspection reports dated March 30, 2023) was discussed with the TC representative. **Please update the division when signage has been appropriately amended.**

**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:

Surface drainage around the stocker coal truck loadout appears to be controlled. Drainage reports to a pump house directly connected to the stoker loadout building (Photo 3). Excess water from this building (Photo 4) which flows to sediment ponds is collected in a series of three ditches located behind the building (Photo 6). Straw bales have been placed on the upgradient side of the ditches to further aid in sediment control (Photo 5).

The drainage from this area and the road on either side of the loadout building should be reporting to existing ponds and the gradient should be maintained to ensure any runoff from the area or cleanup of the building is able

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to report to existing sumps and ponds. This stoker coal support building near the Wash plant will be sealed in 2023. This drainage will then be pumped into Pond E.

Buffer zones appear to be maintained. Vegetation was present within these zones and appropriate signage delineated the edge of the buffer zone which protects Foidel Creek (Photo 8).

#### GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

##### Ongoing Maintenance Items:

- Protect topsoil piles from cattle
- Reseed topsoil piles, pad slopes, and pipeline corridors, at the newer pads ( 15 left— 18 left)
- Reestablish portal ditch, clear-out cattails and any non-coal waste
- Reestablish ditch F behind the warehouse pad
- Topsoil pile at the 7E cement drop pad will need to be used to reclaim the site or shaped and seeded.
- Spray weeds and Reseed the waste pile topsoil pile
- Protect topsoil piles along the 6MN road during maintenance and snow plowing activities
- Remove rock dust from 6 NM Reservoir facility pad.
- Seal support building near Wash Plant (Spring 2023)

TC representative noted that TC is working to implement new dust control measures at the coal stoker loadout facility and will submit the appropriate revision once plans are finalized.

##### 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):

Roads were in good condition and recently plowed.

TOPSOIL— Rule 4.06 Removal 4.06. 2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06. 3; Redistribution 4.06A

Topsoil piles were appropriately marked throughout the site and snow plowing was not interfering with topsoil piles near roads. Small tufts of vegetation were visible through the snow on some piles. TC representative noted that topsoil piles surrounding the refuse disposal area are to be reseeded in the spring (Photo 10).

##### FISH & WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18

The accompanying TC representative stated that Elk frequent surrounding areas of the mine (Photo 7). Waterfowl were present in several ponds across the site.

##### EXCESS SPOIL AND DEV. WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization: No standing water was present on the pile. Loads are placed in piles in Winter months when snow is present to avoid improper compaction when the snow melts. Piles will be leveled and compacted in 2' lifts during the Spring/Summer season (Photos 11 and 12). TR67 approved plans to expand the coal refuse disposal area from 3 Million cubic yard volume to a maximum of 20 Million cubic yards.

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The expansion area would abut the current Refuse pile on the West and expand to the East onto a previously reclaimed surface mined slope. TC is currently operating in the original refuse disposal area and will continue work on Lift 4 in the spring/summer.

#### SUBSIDENCE – Rule 4.20

The inspection report dated January 18, 2023 discussed the approval of a new due date for Foidel Creek Mine's annual subsidence reports. The 2022 annual subsidence report was due to the Division on **March 1, 2023**. Please submit this report to the Division as soon as possible to remain in compliance with Foidel's annual report requirement.

### ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

### PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Appropriate signage is posted at the entrance to the Foidel Creek Mine.

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Photo 2: Mine signs are also posted wherever the Foidel Creek operation crosses a public road.



Photo 3: View behind the stoker building. Three ditches are built behind this building and in front of the fence. Drainage from the stoker building reports to the pump house visible to the East in this photo.

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Photo 4: View inside the coal stoker loadout building. This building will be sealed in the spring to control drainage from this facility.



Photo 5: Straw bales placed upgradient of the three ditches located behind the coal stoker loadout building.

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Photo 6: Foidel Creek is located behind and very near to the coal stoker loadout facility. Extra care should be taken to ensure that drainage from this facility is reporting to the appropriate ponds and or pump house areas.



Photo 7: View South of the operation from Highway 27. Large gullies visible in the far distance are a historic part of the previously reclaimed surface mine and have been kept in place for wildlife purposes. The accompanying TC representative said that elk frequent the area.

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Photo 8: The buffer zone for Foidel Creek is marked by appropriate signage. Some vegetation is visible through the snow in the buffer zone.



Photo 9: Pond E. Discharge from the stoker coal loadout facility reports here.

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Photo 10: Topsoil pile located near the refuse disposal area.



Photo 11: View to the south of the main facilities, BOB (belt out back) pile, stoker building, and snow covered refuse disposal area from Highway 27.

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Photo 12: View north of the current refuse disposal area. Area was active at the time of inspection. TC representative noted that work will continue on lift four in the spring/summer months. Pile will eventually be constructed to match the currently existing ridge shown in this photo.

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