

March 16, 2023

Mark Gray New Elk Coal Company, LLC. 12250 Highway 12 Weston, Colorado 81091

Re: Lorencito Canyon Mine, Permit No. C-1996-084; 2022 Annual Reclamation Report Review

Dear Mr. Gray,

The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (DRMS or Division) received the 2022 annual reclamation report (ARR) for Lorencito Canyon Mine on February 15, 2023. The report was reviewed by DRMS for compliance with Rule 2.04.13. Items that will need to be addressed by New Elk Coal Company, LLC. (NECC) are shown below in **bold** text. DRMS finds the following:

- 1. The ARR was received on February 15, 2022, on the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1).
- 2. The name and address of the permittee as well as the permit number for the site was included in the ARR in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(a).
- 3. No new land was disturbed in 2022. Although, 0.1 acre was re-disturbed for the sediment drying area as shown on the ARR map in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(b).
- 4. There were no acres backfilled and graded 2022 in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(c). 0.1 acre was re-disturbed for the sediment drying area as shown on the ARR map and was subtracted from the backfill and graded cumulative total on the ARR.
- 5. There were no acres topsoiled in 2022 in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(d). 0.1 acre was re-disturbed for the sediment drying area as shown on the ARR map and was subtracted from the topsoil cumulative total on the ARR.



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- 6. There were no acres seeded in 2022 in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(e). 0.1 acre was re-disturbed for the sediment drying area as shown on the ARR map and was subtracted from the seeded (10 years or greater) cumulative total on the ARR.
- 7. The number of acres and date of planting for all previously revegetated areas was provided in the ARR in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(1)(f).
- 8. No additional monitoring information for the ARR is required by the approved permit in accordance with Rule 2.04.13(2).

The Division has no further comments about this report at this time. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at brock.bowles@state.co.us or (720) 774-0040.

Sincerely,

Brock Bowles,

**Environmental Protection Specialist** 

Ec: Nick Mason; NECC, nmason@newelkcoal.com

Jared Ebert; DRMS, jared.ebert@state.co.us