



C-1981-008 New Horizon, July 2023 Partial Inspection Report

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us>

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Good Afternoon Tony!

Please find the attached Inspection Report for your July Partial. Like we talked about, the only maintenance item I saw was the weeds on the Guire property. Please send me some pictures once you get those sprayed and or pulled. Other than that things look awesome and I look forward to seeing the reclamation progress! let me know if you have any questions or need anything else. Thanks,
Lucas

Lucas West
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COLORADO
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C-1981-008 July 2023 Partial Inspection Report.pdf
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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-008 Mine Name: New Horizon Mine Operator: Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC Operator Address: Mr Tony Tennyson P.O. Box 628 27646 West 5th Avenue Nucla, CO 81424	County: Montrose Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Tony Tennyson
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: July 18, 2023 Inspection Start Time: 13:30 Inspection End Date: July 18, 2023 Inspection End Time: 14:40	Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Lucas West	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 7/28/2023

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

R - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection conducted by Lucas West of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's Active Mines Program. The site is in final reclamation, and active reclamation activity was being conducted at the time of the inspection. The weather was clear and dry. Tony Tennyson accompanied the inspection and represented the Operator. Seven Photos accompany this report to illustrate the observed site conditions.

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:

At the time of the inspection, active backfilling operations were taking place in the backfill area adjacent to Pond 013. A majority of the area has already been backfilled with Bench 1 material hauled from the stockpile located near Pond 012. The stockpile near Pond 012 was observed, material was removed from the pile in such a way as to not jeopardize the piles stability, and no evidence of erosion or slumping was observed on the pile. The activity taking place the day of the inspection was pulling from the Bench 1 stockpile in the immediate area. Haul trucks were being loaded via excavator and dumped material was being spread by way of a dozer in the dump area. Photos One through Three show the backfilling operations. In the areas that have already been backfilled and spread, no erosion, settling or slumping was noted. The areas have consistent grade, which appears to match the post reclamation topography in preparation for topsoil placement.

Located to the North of pond one, in accordance with the reclamation plan, a surface water conveyance has been roughed in. This conveyance will direct surface flows from the backfill area towards Pond 013. The location and rough dimensions appear to be consistent with the designs, and the area is in good condition. The conveyance can be seen in Photo Four.

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:

Ponds 012, 013 and 015 were observed during the inspection. Pond 012 contained no water and showed no evidence of recent inflow or holding of water given the dry conditions. The banks and base of the pond are well vegetated and appeared stable at the time of the inspection. Pond 012 can be seen in Photo Five. Similarly, Pond 015 was observed to be dry with no evidence of recent inflow or holding. The area in and around Pond 015 is well vegetated and was stable at the time of the inspection. Pond 013, shown in Photo Six is in good condition, the vegetation and banks appear stable and the baffle curtains appear to be functioning as designed. The inflow

and aeration structure was observed receiving water through both pipes and functioning as designed.

Located near the Johnson Property Topsoil Storage Area, a temporary mobile above ground fuel tank and lubricant storage area was observed that is being utilized by the reclamation contractor. The fuel tank is a skid mounted, double walled tank that is in good condition, miscellaneous oils, lubricants and other materials are being stored adjacent the tank on a spill pallet. No evidence of spills or leaks were observed, and the area is neat and well-kept as seen in Photo Seven.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The Guire Property Haul Road area has recently had some reclamation repairs and revegetation efforts take place. This area was observed, and small populations of Canada thistle (list B species) and Buffalo bur (not a listed noxious weed, but still an undesirable species) were noted. These species should be either mechanically or chemically treated as soon as the operator is able. This is being considered a maintenance item, once the populations are treated and or removed, please provide photo documentation of the activities to the Division.

PHOTOGRAPHS





Photo Three: View West, showing another view of the area that has been partially backfilled. Clear distinction can be seen between the are that has Bench 1 material opposed to the area that has not.



Photo Four: View South, showing the roughed in surface water conveyance leading from the backfill area to Pond 013.



Photo Five: View East, showing Pond 012. The pond is well vegetated and shows no evidence of recent flow. Evidence of heavy wildlife traffic was observed in the area.



Photo Six: View West, showing Pond 13. The pond is good condition, the baffle curtains and aeration structure appear to be functioning as designed.

