

STATE OF
COLORADO

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

Deserado Mine 2nd Quarter Coal Processing Waste Banks Report Review Letter

1 message

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us>
To: Kurt Blunt <kblunt@deserado.com>

Wed, Aug 2, 2023 at 3:45 PM

Hi Kurt,

Attached is the Division's review letter for the Deserado Mine's 2nd Quarter Coal Processing Waste Bank Inspection Report. **Please note the Adequacy Items on the second page of the report.** Please provide the Division with a response to the adequacy items by August 23, 2023. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Clayton Wein
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

P 303.866.3567 x 8185 | F 303.832.8106
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203
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Deserado Mine, C-1981-018, 2nd Quarter 2023 Coal Waste Bank Inspection Report Review Letter.pdf
240K



August 2, 2023

Kurt Blunt
Blue Mountain Energy, Inc.
3607 County Rd. 65
Rangely, CO 81648

RE: Deserado Mine, Permit No. C-1981-018
2nd Quarter 2023 Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks

Dear Kurt,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (the Division) has reviewed the Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the 2nd quarter of 2023. The Division finds the report to be in compliance with the following Rules:

4.10.2(1) – The coal waste banks were inspected, on behalf of the person conducting surface coal mining operations, by a qualified registered engineer.

4.10.2(2)(a) – The inspection was conducted quarterly as required by the Division.

4.10.2(2)(b) – The inspection included observations necessary to evaluate the potential hazard to human life and property, to ensure that all organic material and topsoil have been removed and that proper construction and maintenance are occurring in accordance with the plan submitted under Rule 2.05.3(8) and approved by the Division.

4.10.2(2)(c) – The engineer considered the steepness of the slopes, seepage, and other visual factors which would indicate potential failure, and the results of failure with respect to the threat to human life and property.

4.10.2(2)(d) – Copies of the inspection findings are maintained at the mine site.

4.10.2(3) – There were no potential hazards identified in the 2nd Quarter Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks.

Refuse material was hauled and placed at the RP-A refuse pile during the 2nd quarter. There were no indications of seepage or any indications of slope failure. The slopes of



the piles are stable and only some localized erosion has occurred. The surface drainage facilities are properly conveying surface runoff from the refuse bank areas.

Adequacy Questions:

1. The 2nd quarter report does not discuss if compaction tests were performed. Please include in future quarterly reports a short discussion of whether or not compaction tests were performed during the quarter.
2. Were compaction tests performed during the 2nd quarter of 2023?

This concludes the Division's review of the 2nd Quarter 2023 Professional Certification of the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the Deserado Mine. If you have any questions, please contact me at (303)-866-3567 x 8185 or clayton.wein@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clayton Wein". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Clayton Wein
Environmental Protection Specialist
clayton.wein@state.co.us

cc: Travis Marshal, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist