



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## Bowie #1 inspection report

1 message

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

Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 3:29 PM

To: Basil Bear <basilbear@wolverinefuels.com>, Tamme Bishop <tammekb@gmail.com>

Hello -

Please see the attached report.

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.*

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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981038\_RDZ\_08282023.pdf**  
1851K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-038 <b>Mine Name:</b> Bowie No. 1 Mine <b>Operator:</b> Bowie Resources, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Basil R Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	<b>County:</b> Delta <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Basil Bear
<b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> August 23, 2023 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 07:20 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> August 24, 2023 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 08:00		<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>  		<b>Signature Date:</b>  8/28/2023

**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

Y - Backfill &amp; Grading

Y - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

Y - Processing Waste

R - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

R - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on August 23 and August 24, 2023. Basil Bear of Bowie Resources Limited (BRL) drove the inspector to several drill hole pads and to the West Mine on an ATV. Mr. Bear did not participate in the rest of the inspection.

No mining or reclamation activities were being conducted at this site. BRL is focusing on Bowie No. 2 in 2023.

The weather was warm and clear. The ground was dry.

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

The records were found to be well organized and mostly complete. It was unclear if the most recent subsidence report was missing. This should be updated, as necessary. Please see the list of records included in this report.

**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:

The ponds at the loadout, the Coal Storage Area (near Black Bridge Road), and the West Mine were dry, and no problems were identified with these ponds.

Armored drainage channels at the East Mine were stable.

Culverts at the East Mine, West Mine, and loadout were inspected and found to be clear of obstruction.

The irrigation ditch that flows under the loadout (the Farmers Ditch) was full of water. No issues were identified with this ditch and the loadout area.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

**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):

No problems were seen with the road to the reclaimed ROM area or other roads.

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

The following pads for drill holes were inspected (listed in the order of the inspection):

- DH-80 (Section 23, on Johnson Road near the West Mine)
- DH-87 (Section 23, north of the West Mine in thick brush)
- DH-67 (Section 15, approximately one mile northwest of the West Mine)
- DH-56 (Section 15, approximately one mile northwest of the West Mine)
- DH-66 (Section 15, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the West Mine)
- DH-55 (Section 10, approximately 1.8 miles northwest of the West Mine)
- DH-93 (Section 23, on Stevens Gulch Road)
- DH-92 (Section 23, east side of Stevens Gulch Road)
- DH-41 (Section 13, east of Stevens Gulch Road)
- DH-47 (Section 12, east end of U-shaped road in “Turkey Track” area)
- BV-2 (Section 24, at south end of BV-2 Road)
- DH-42 (Section 13, east of Stevens Gulch Road).

Two of the pad locations appear to be where roads currently exist: DH-80 and DH-93. The location of BV-2 is uncertain: there is an apparent pad south of the fence line, but the GPS system indicated it is on the reclaimed road north of the fence line. The map used for navigation (Map 4-1 from the PAP) appears to be inaccurate in the vicinity of DH-47, namely the road location may be inaccurate.

At all pads, no erosion problems were identified. The vegetation was generally in good shape.

No erosion was seen at the reclaimed areas of the East Mine, including:

- The main area along the haul road and around the old portals
- The RDA
- The Old Waste Disposal Area
- The drainage where the reclaimed ponds (Ponds 1 – 4) are located.

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**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15****Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

At the West Mine, no yellow starthistle was seen. Dead thistle near the West Mine ponds suggests that BRL has been spraying weeds.

At the East Mine, small amounts of cheat grass and white top were seen.

At the coal storage area by the highway and Black Bridge Road, much of the area contains cheat grass.

Only small numbers of weeds were seen on the drill hole pads, including a small amount of thistle and a small amount of mullein at DH-67 and a small amount of knapweed at DH-47.

**SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:**

The recent slide at the East Mine was observed and it has not gotten worse in recent weeks.

**OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:**

No erosion or other problems were seen with the Coal Storage Area by Black Bridge Road.

No erosion was seen at the loadout, including the steep slope between the loadout and the orchard below. The trestle across the river appears stable.

No erosion or other problems were seen at the well field off Roatcap Road.

**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: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Pad for drill hole DH-67**



**Pad for drill hole DH-55**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**Pad for drill hole DH-92**



**Pad for drill hole DH-41**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**Upper pond at West Mine (note sprayed thistle)**



**Lower pond at West Mine**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





**Steep slope on upper part of East Mine**



**Lower East Mine – RDA, Old Waste Disposal Area, and drainage below**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**Old Waste Disposal Area, and drainage above**



**Hillside below the loadout**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS****PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	RN7 exp. 4/20/2023 (RN8 approval is pending)
Permit Application w/Revisions	On shelf
Findings Document	RN8 findings 7/27/2023
Insurance Certificate	Exp.5/1/2024
Bond Document	SEE COMMENT 1
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	SL8 findings 11/23/2022
Air Emission Permits	NA
County Special Use Permits	NA
UG Mining Landowner Notification	1993 and 1994
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	May 2023
Vegetation Monitoring Data	
Specific Variance Approvals	2.06.1(3) Steep Slope
Annual Reclamation Reports	2022
Midterm Review Documents	MT8 10/13/2020
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	July 2023
Transfers/Succession of Operator	7/29/2009
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2
<b>CERTIFICATIONS</b>	
Pond Certifications	W-1 and W-2 (2002)
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Yes 2/4/1987
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	Yes, several years
Access Road Certifications	Yes, PAP Vol. 8A

**HYDROLOGIC RECORDS**

NPDES Permit	CO-0049045 Exp. 2025
NPDES Records (DMRs)	Thru August 2023
Stormwater Management Plan	Aug. 2018
SPCC Plan	No longer valid
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection Quarterly Pond Inspections	NA
Annual Hydrology Reports	Thru June 2023
• Ground Water Monitoring	2022
• Surface Water Monitoring	2022 AHR
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	2022 AHR
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	NA

**BLASTING RECORDS**

NA

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS**

CDOT Access Permit	Permit #399055 (June 1999)
Annual Subsidence Report	2021 ARR (missing from 2022 ARR)

**COMMENTS:**

1. Two instruments with Lexon Insurance Co.: \$2,500,000 + \$268,916 = \$2,768,916.
2. The cost estimate of \$1,639,674 (from MT8) does not match liability. This is explained in SL-06 findings.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1