



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

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## Inspections August 2023 : Yoast, Seneca IIW and Williams Fort

1 message

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**Reilley - DNR, Robin** <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Wed, Aug 30, 2023 at 11:52 AM

To: "Kawcak, Miranda" <MKawcak@peabodyenergy.com>, "Copeland, Kevin" <KCopeland@peabodyenergy.com>, "Howard, Michael" <MHoward@peabodyenergy.com>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon,

Please find the above referenced Inspection Reports of August 2023. These were partial inspections. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP  
Environmental Protection Specialist II



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

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### 3 attachments



**Ins\_Partial\_Seneca\_2023\_08August\_2.pdf**  
577K



**Ins\_Partial\_Yoast\_2023\_08August2.pdf**  
1203K



**INSP\_Partial\_WF\_2023\_08August2.pdf**  
3273K




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

**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1982-057 <b>Mine Name:</b> Seneca II-W Mine <b>Operator:</b> Seneca Property LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Ms. Miranda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Miranda Kawcak
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> 29 August, 2023 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 12:00 a.m. <b>Inspection End Date:</b> 29 August, 2023 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 13:00 p.m.		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial 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>  Robin Reilley, GISP	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b> 		<b>Signature Date:</b>  30 August, 2023

<b>Inspection Topic Summary</b>	
NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable	
<b>Y</b> - Air Resource Protection <b>N</b> - Availability of Records <b>NA</b> - Backfill & Grading <b>NA</b> - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste <b>NA</b> - Explosives <b>R</b> - Fish & Wildlife <b>R</b> - Hydrologic Balance <b>R</b> - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan <b>NA</b> - Other <b>NA</b> - Processing Waste	<b>R</b> - Roads <b>Y</b> - Reclamation Success <b>Y</b> - Revegetation <b>N</b> - Subsidence <b>R</b> - Slides and Other Damage <b>NA</b> - Support Facilities On-site <b>N</b> - Signs and Markers <b>N</b> - Support Facilities Not On-site <b>N</b> - Special Categories Of Mining <b>N</b> - Topsoil

### **COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Seneca IIW Mine, C1982057, operated by Seneca Property LLC. The inspection was conducted, images analyzed and the report prepared by me, Robin Reilley of the DRMS. Miranda Kawcak, mine representative, was present throughout the inspection. No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection. The weather was clear and calm with temperatures around 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### *PERMITTING ACTIONS in PROGRESS:*

*None at this time.*

#### *MAINTENANCE ISSUES IDENTIFIED*

#### *OUTSTANDING MAINTENANCE*

1. Flume at Pond 15 requires resetting.
2. Slide at Pond 6 requires mitigation plan

#### *INSPECTION:*

The purpose of the inspection was to discuss mitigation options for the 1/3 acre slide above the Pond 6 spillway. Due to a large amount of snow and an associated cornice that was wind deposited during winter of 2022/2023 saturating the unstable historic mud flows below. The drainage ditch on the haul road above the slide was walked. The ditch transports water from the slope above Pond 6, preventing water from flowing across the road, to a culvert that sends water to the inlet end of the pond.

#### *GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:*

Reclamation is complete and executed as permitted. Approximately 106.2 acres remain for Phase I and Phase II bond release. These acres comprise the main haul road, Pond 6 and the slide area above; ponds 15 and slide area on the east side of the site.

#### *SIGNS and MARKERS – Rule 4.02*

*NA as this was a partial inspection.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

*ROADS – Rule 4.03*

*Construction 4.03.1(3) I 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4) I 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6) I 4.03.2(5) and (6); Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7)*

- The haul road to Pond 6 was in adequate repair.

*HYDROLOGIC BALANCE- Rule 4.05*

*General Requirements 4.05.1; Effluent Standards 4.05.2; Divergence and Conveyance of Overland Flow 4.05.3; Diversions 4.05.4; Sediment Control Measures 4.05.5, 4.05.6; Discharge Structures 4.05.7; Impoundments 4.05.9; Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Underground Mine Entry 4.05.10; Surface and Ground Water Monitoring 4.05.13; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18;*

*SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12*

Possible mitigation methods of the slide above the Pond 6 spillway were discussed. The slope has a history of instability and is a historic pre mining mud slide. There was a 1993 slide where movement was monitored until 1994 when movement had stabilized. The slope slid again in 2011. In 2012 the slide was mitigated through the reclamation activities occurring in that area at the time. The discussion centered on the following remediation:

1. Rework the road ditch by lining the ditch and hardening with a form of concrete rip rap. This would prevent spring runoff from pooling in check dams, and possible saturating the road bed above the slide area.
2. Installing approximately 100 feet of snow fence above the slide area to collect snow, preventing accumulation along road scarp above slide area and directing spring snow melt into a shallow depression located upslope and beyond the slide and down slope into dense oak brush.
3. Clean up and lower the raw edge at the upper portion of the slide where it cracked.
4. Seed with vegetation that has a vigorous root system.

*REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15*

Perennial vegetation appeared well established on the slopes above the Pond 6 inlet.

*FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18*

Wildlife is often observed throughout the Seneca IIW mine site.

*DOCUMENTS RECEIVED*

None

*INSPECTIONS 5.02; Availability of Records*

No as this was a partial inspection.

*DOCUMENTS RECEIVED*

None

*OTHER (SPECIFY)**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: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



*Photo 1: Slide area above Pond 6.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1