




PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-084 Mine Name: Lorencito Canyon Mine Operator: New Elk Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Nick Mason 12250 Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	County: Las Animas Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Permanent Cessation Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Nick Mason
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: August 23, 2023 Inspection Start Time: 14:00 Inspection End Date: August 24, 2023 Inspection End Time: 14:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete 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): Brock Bowles Amber Michels	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: September 1, 2023		

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - 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 complete inspection was conducted by Brock Bowles and Amber Michels of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). Nick Mason of the New Elk Mine was present for the inspection. The weather was clear with few scattered clouds, warm, with a light breeze. The ground was mostly dry.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The mine records were checked in the mine office. The records check list is available at the end of 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:

Pond 6 contained a small amount of water and was not discharging (photo 1).

Pond 8 contained water and was not discharging (photo 2).

Pond 9 contained water and was not discharging. The primary and emergency spillways were clear of obstructions.

Pond 9A contained water and was not discharging.

Culvert C4 was clear of obstructions (photo 3).

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

Fill 6 has many gullies which have undercut the wattles. The fill has not stabilized and needs to be reconstructed and revegetated (photo 4).

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

Fill 7 was well vegetation and appeared stable.

Fill 8 was well vegetated and appeared stable.

Fill 9 was well vegetated and appeared to be stable.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

OTHER (SPECIFY)

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Pond 6

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Photo 2 – Pond 8



Photo 3 – Culvert C4 discharge end

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



Photo 4 – Fill 6 rills and gullies

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	X-RN5 in progress, exp. 2022
Permit Application w/Revisions	X
Findings Document	X (RN4 2018)
Insurance Certificate	X- 2024
Bond Document	X
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	X SL-1 (2005), SL-2(2018)
Air Emission Permits	X
County Special Use Permits	Exempt
UG Mining Landowner Notification	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Data	n/a
Rill & Gully Survey	X, submitted 2023
Vegetation Monitoring Data	n/a
Specific Variance Approvals	n/a
Annual Reclamation Reports	X, submitted 2023
Midterm Review Documents	MT-4
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	X through July 2023
Transfers/Succession of Operator	X, Jan. 2021
Temporary Cessation Notification	n/a
Reclamation Cost Estimate	MT-4 2016 and RN-4 2017

CERTIFICATIONS

Pond Certifications	5,6A,7A,8,9,9A,10
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	1 st Quarter
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	X, 2023 through June
• Quarterly Inspections	1 st Quarter
• Compaction Testing	n/a
• Final Certification	n/a
Coal Processing Waste Banks	n/a
Haul Road Certifications	n/a
Access Road Certifications	n/a

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	X, on extension since 2020
NPDES Records	n/a
Stormwater Management Plan	
SPCC Plan	n/a
MSHA Pond Inspections	n/a
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	n/a
Quarterly Pond Inspections	n/a
Annual Hydrology Reports	CDPHE cover letter
• Ground Water Monitoring	n/a
• Surface Water Monitoring	n/a
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	n/a
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	n/a
• Mine Inflow Study	n/a
• Water Consumption Records	n/a
Well Permits	X, #201451

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	n/a
Blasting Records (3 years)	n/a
ATFE Explosives Permit	n/a
Blasting Variances	n/a
Pre-Blast Surveys	n/a

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS:

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bowles - DNR, Brock <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

August Inspection reports

1 message

Bowles - DNR, Brock <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

Fri, Sep 1, 2023 at 4:12 PM

To: Nick Mason <nmason@newelkcoal.com>

Cc: Amber Michels - DNR <amber.michels@state.co.us>

Nick,

Here are the Aug inspection reports for the New Elk (M-1981-012) and Lorencito (M-1996-084) mines.

Have a good weekend,

Brock

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Brock Bowles

Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO
Division of Reclamation,
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

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Mailing: Room 215, 1001 E 62nd Ave, Denver, CO 80216

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2 attachments



INSP-REPORTC_C1996084_ANM_09012023010722.pdf

1758K



INSP-REPORTC_C1981012_ANM_09012023120701.pdf

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