

6473 County Road 120
Hesperus, CO 81326

970.385.4528 ext. 6540
mdickson@gcc.com



October 9, 2023

State of Colorado
Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety
1313 Sherman St., Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Attn: Environmental Protection Specialist

Re: GCC Energy, LLC, King II Mine
CDRMS Permit # C-1981-035
Stoner Engineering: Quarterly Inspection: King I Water Quality Improvements
Inspection 3rd Quarter 2023

Mr. Wein:

Please find enclosed a copy of Stoner Engineering's Quarterly Inspection report of the King I water quality improvement inspection for the 3rd quarter of 2023.

Please contact me at 970.385.4528 ext. 6540, or mdickson@gcc.com if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael Dickson

Michael Dickson
Mine Engineer
GCC Energy, LLC

Stoner Engineering & Surveying
Engineering, Testing & Surveying

Date: October 4, 2023

To: Jordan McCourt
Project Coordinator
GCC Energy, LLC
6473 County Road 120
Hesperus, CO 81326
(970) 385-4528



From: Ryan Griglak, P.E.
Project Manager
Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Re: King Coal I – Quarterly Water Quality Improvements Inspection

On September 28, 2023, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King I Mine site to conduct the quarterly inspection of the water quality features installed to prevent contaminated storm water runoff from escaping the site in events smaller than the 100-year storm event.

Both ponds held water at the time of the inspection due to recent storm events. The water level was roughly the same as the previous inspection (about 2-feet in depth) though the sediment level was noticeably higher (see Pic. 1). The west pond also had roughly 2-feet of water at the time of the inspection (see Pic. 2). All of the excess waste material placed in the pond had been removed as well as some of the accumulated sediment. Recent storm events have resulted in a pause of the sediment removal operations for the west pond. As conditions improve and the pond dries out, the excess material (sediment) should be removed. This excess material should be removed as soon as possible to ensure adequate pond capacity for runoff/storm events. The sedimentation traps at the entrance to the site are generally in good condition.

The existing ditches and culverts are generally in good condition. Most of the maintenance issues identified in the previous report have been corrected. The culvert located under the haul road (at the base of the lower waste pile) that flows into the west pond (Reach 8) has been cleaned (see Pic. 3). The corrugated (poly) culvert on the east side of the stilling basin, at the base of the haul road (East side, NW of bath house) has also been cleared of sediment (see Pic. 4). The culvert for the west clear water ditch (Reaches 3 & 6) which discharges into the north clear water ditch is still in need of cleaning. The culverts located on the switchbacks of the main waste embankment pile have also been cleared. The culvert located at the north switchback of the haul road has been replaced.

Waste material has been placed on both the upper waste pile since the previous inspection. Surface grading appears to direct runoff away from the face of both waste piles and the required berming is in place.

The drainage for the overall site is capable of functioning as designed. The maintenance issues noted in the previous inspection have either been addressed or are in the process of being addressed to ensure that the site continues to function as designed.

The drainage features have been constructed and will continue to function as stated in the drainage plan submitted to the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety once the noted maintenance items have been addressed.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns in regards to the issues that are discussed above.

Sincerely,



Ryan M. Griglak, P.E.
Project Manager

Stoner Engineering & Surveying

Engineering, Testing & Surveying



Pic. 1 –Water level, East pond.



Pic. 2 – Water/waste material within boundary of West pond.



Pic. 3 – Outlet, culvert under haul road at base of lower pile (Reach 8).



Pic. 4 – Corrugated Poly Culvert east side of the stilling basin.