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: King II Water Quality Improvements Inspection Annual Inspection 2023

Mr. Wein:

Please find enclosed a copy of Stoner Engineering's Annual Inspection report of the King II water quality improvement inspection.

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, 2022

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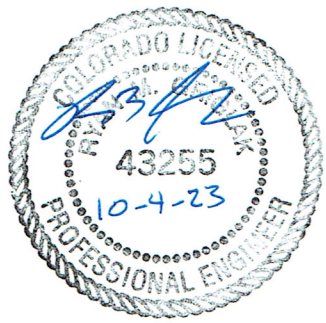
(970) 385-4528



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

Re: King Coal II - Annual Water Quality Improvements Inspection

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On September 28, 2022, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King Coal II site to conduct the annual inspection of the water quality pond installed to prevent contaminated storm water runoff from escaping the site in events smaller than the 100-year storm event.

The water quality pond had some water at the time of the inspection. The elevation at the bottom of the pond could not be determined due to both the existing water level and the ongoing sediment removal operations within the pond at the time of the inspection (see Pic. 1). Removal of sediment from the pond was ongoing and placed on hold due to recent storm events. It is anticipated that the remainder of the excess sediment will be removed from the detention pond as soon as site conditions allow.

The vegetation both inside and out of the pond and embankments is well established to minimize the erosion impacts of storm runoff. The outlet structure shows no signs of damage and was functioning as designed at the time of the inspection (see Pic. 2). The outlet pipes were free from debris, sediment and excessive vegetation (see Pic. 3). The water quality pond appears to be in generally good condition. There were no signs of weakness or distress to either the outlet structure or the embankment material. The vegetative cover is thick in the areas not impacted by the sediment removal operations. The water quality pond has the storage capacity to function as designed.

The east clear water ditch, the lower west clear water ditch (east of the driveway access) and the main drainage ditch (combined clear water ditches) were found to be in generally good condition and clean of debris.

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The erosion control structures for the treated water ditch located south of the scale house had been cleaned out to prevent clogging of the culvert leading to the detention pond (see Pic. 4). All ditches should be inspected and repaired as necessary, especially after storm events.

The culvert pipes on the site were in generally good condition overall. The culvert pipes should be monitored after storm events and cleaned out in the event that sedimentation occurs or debris buildup at the culvert inlets or outlets is observed.

The drainage features for the King II site are functioning as designed and are being maintained in accordance with the approved plans.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns in regards to the issues discussed in this report.

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Griglak, P.E.
Project Manager

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Pic. 1 – Detention Pond-sediment removal has begun.

Pic. 2 – Outlet structure appears to be in good condition.

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Pic. 3 Outlet structure culverts in good condition.

Pic. 4 –Treated water ditch south of scale house in good condition.

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