

STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Bowie #2 report

1 message

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

Thu, Nov 16, 2023 at 2:50 PM

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

Here is my report from the aerial inspection this week.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

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**INSP-REPORTC_C1996083_RDZ_11162023.pdf**


1940K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-083 Mine Name: Bowie No. 2 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Basil Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: November 14, 2023 Inspection Start Time: 09:30 Inspection End Date: November 14, 2023 Inspection End Time: 10:00		Inspection Type: Aerial 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): Robert Zuber, P.E. Brock Bowles	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 11/16/2023

Inspection Topic Summary

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

R - Air Resource Protection**N** - Availability of Records**Y** - Backfill & Grading**NA** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**N** - Fish & Wildlife**R** - Hydrologic Balance**R** - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan**N** - Other**R** - Processing Waste**R** - Roads**R** - Reclamation Success**N** - Revegetation**Y** - Subsidence**R** - Slides and Other Damage**R** - Support Facilities On-site**N** - Signs and Markers**R** - Support Facilities Not On-site**NA** - Special Categories Of Mining**R** - Topsoil**COMMENTS**

Brock Bowles of DRMS took aerial photographs of the Bowie No. 2 Mine site on November 14, 2023. Rob Zuber of DRMS reviewed the photographs on November 16, 2023.

Coal production at the Bowie No. 2 Mine ceased in 2016. The mine is in “active” status because BRL continues to perform work on Gob Pile #3 for many months of the year. Recently, BRL has begun to perform reclamation work on Gob Pile #2 also. Other activities on site are maintenance and monitoring.

AIR RESOURCE PROTECTION – Rule 4.17:

The photographs did not reveal any issues with fugitive dust.

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 following ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, J, and K. Most of these ponds appeared to contain significant water, with Pond K being the exception. The vegetation in Pond J obscures the bottom, so it is difficult to determine the amount of water in it. No problems were identified with embankments or other features of the ponds.

No problems were detected with any of the surface water control ditches. This includes the diversion ditches above Gob Pile #2 and Gob Pile #4 and the ditches between Gob Pile #3 and Pond J.

The Fire Mountain Canal, an irrigation ditch that runs through the Bowie #2 permit area, was not flowing at the time of the inspection.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The photographs revealed no signs of pollutant loading from the mine into the North Fork of the Gunnison River or adjacent lands.

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

No areas with large amounts of ponded water were identified on any of the gob piles.

Minor erosion on Gob Pile #2 does not appear to be a problem. Gob material on the upper portion of Gob Pile #2 (from the coal stockpile pad per correspondence with a BRL representative) should be spread in the near future to avoid ponding.

The reclamation of Gob Pile #3 appears to be nearly complete, and no erosion was seen.

The repair of the blowout that occurred on Gob Pile #4 in the spring of 2023 appears stable. BRL is performing reclamation in an area above this blowout to help prevent the blowout from occurring again.

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 any haul roads or access roads.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

Gob Pile #1, Gob Pile #4, and the reclaimed portion of Gob Pile #2 all appear to be in stable condition with minimal areas that are bare. In general, there is no erosion on the hillsides along the access road to the mine portals and Utility Bench, with exceptions noted in the Slides and Damage section of this report.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The slumps above the B Portal Bench, at Curve 11, and above the road to the Utility Bench have not worsened in recent months. However, the slide at Curve 10 is large and must be closely watched for the next few years. BRL has performed significant work at this slide (including the addition of a culvert along the road) and additional work may be required at and above this area.

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SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

No problems were identified with any facility areas, including the following: the Utility Bench, the D Portal Bench, the B Portal Bench, the Material Storage Area by TSS A, the Conveyor Corridor, the Coal Stockpile Pad, the office, the Preparation Plant area, the storage area and buildings near Pond D, the Pump House and Filter Building, the train loadout area.

OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

The Terror Creek Vent Shaft has been sealed, and the pad reclaimed. No problems were identified. Also, no problems were seen at the Section 5 Road or the pads for GVB-B17A, GVB-B17B, GVB-B17C, or GVB-B17D.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

No erosion or other issues were identified at soil piles.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none**OTHER (SPECIFY) - none****ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

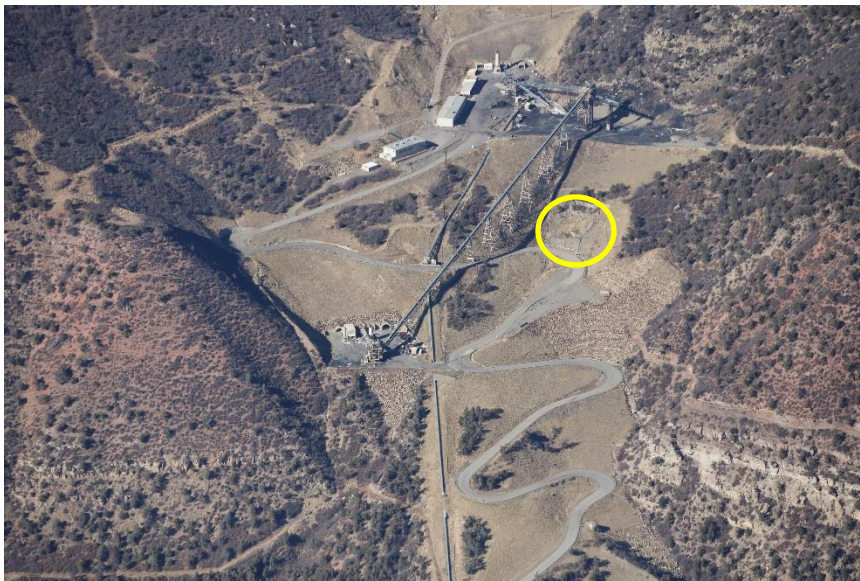
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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

PHOTOGRAPHS



Coal Storage pad, Prep Plant, and lower haul road



Portal benches and upper haul road (slide area circled)

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



D Portal Bench and Utility Bench



Gob Pile #3

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



Blowout on Gob Pile #4 (circled), Ponds Cand D, Old Power Plant, and Filter Building



Fresh earth work near top of Gob Pile #4 (center of photo)

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



Upper portion of Gob Pile #2 with material to be spread on the pile



Pond F and coverfill pile

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



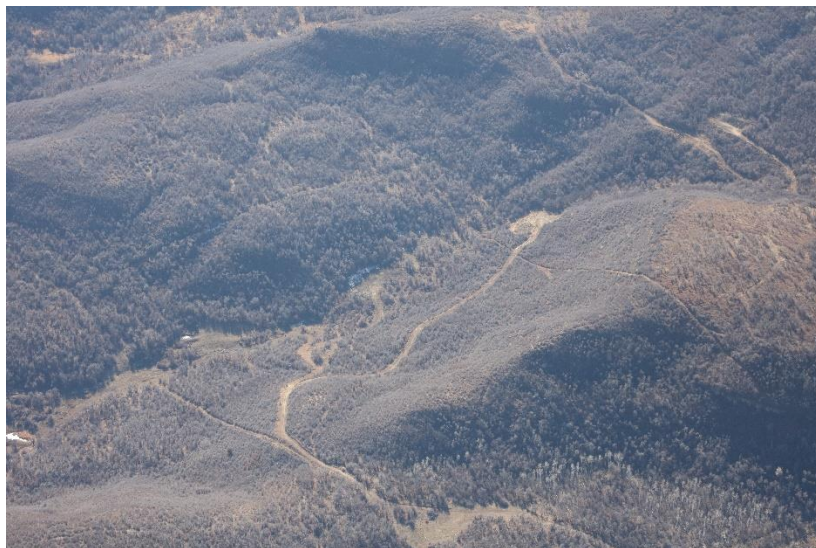
Western end of railroad tracks to Unit Train Loadout



Reclaimed Terror Creek Vent Shaft pad (circled)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



Roads and pads for the B17 series of gob vent boreholes



Section 5 Road, in center of photo

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1