



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Inspection report for Bowie #2

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 8, 2023 at 12:59 PM

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

Hello -

Please see attached report.

Rob

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



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

I am working remotely and can be reached by cell at 720.601.2276.

Physical Address:

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Mailing Address:

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215
1001 East 62nd Avenue
Denver, CO 80216

rob.zuber@state.co.us | <http://drms.colorado.gov>




INSP-REPORTC_C1996083_RDZ_12082023.pdf
1824K



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: Basil Bear in office
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: December 6, 2023 Inspection Start Time: 08:00 Inspection End Date: December 6, 2023 Inspection End Time: 11:30		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): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 12/8/2023

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

Y - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

Y - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

R - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on December 6, 2023.

A pre-inspection meeting was held with Basil Bear in the office, but he was not present during the inspection. Mr. Bear stated that BRL staff removed sediment from the clear water ditch above Gob Pile #2; this was a maintenance need cited by the Division in previous inspections. He also indicated that BRL has graded an area near the top of Gob Pile #4 to prevent another blowout, such as the one that occurred in the spring of 2023. Regarding Gob Pile #3, BRL's surveyor is still working on the survey.

The weather was clear and warm for December. The ground was partially covered with snow and was muddy.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were found to be very well organized and complete. Please see the Availability of Records form in 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:

Six sediment ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, J, and K. None of the ponds were close to discharging. Some were almost dry, but Ponds B and F contained significant water. The bottom of Pond J is obscured by cattails. No significant problems were identified with embankments, spillways, inlet channels, or other features of the ponds.

Erosion was seen at the inlet channel on the east side of Pond F. Unless repairs are precluded by safety concerns, this erosion should be addressed with additional riprap. No problems with other ditches were identified.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

Gob Piles 1, 2, 3, and 4 appeared stable. The small ditches and BMPs on the upper part of Gob Pile #2 appeared to be functioning. The rills on Gob Pile #2 have not gotten worse.

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):

The road to the portals was in adequate condition. The majority of slopes adjacent to this road were stable, with the exception of the slide above Curve 10.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

It appears that slumps above Curve Number 6 along the Haul Road, above the B Portal bench, above Curve Number 11, and above the D Portal bench have not moved significantly in recent months. Also, it does not appear that the large slide above Curve Number 10 has moved more in recent months.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

The following areas appeared stable with no signs of erosion:

- Utility Bench
- D Portal bench
- Material storage area beside Topsoil Stockpile A
- Conveyor corridors
- Slopes above and below the Coal Stockpile Pad
- The area around the office
- The Preparation Plant and nearby water tank
- Pump House and Filter Building
- Old power plant
- Storage area west of Pond D
- The Unit Train Loadout.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

Signs and markers were seen around the site (including stream buffer markers at the Hubbard Creek Vent Shaft pad), and no problems were identified.

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OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

No problems were noted at the Hubbard Creek facilities (Vent Shaft pad and Rock Laydown area). This includes the stream buffer zone at the Vent Shaft pad. The trees at the pad appear to be healthy.

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 problems were seen with topsoil stockpiles or coverfill 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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PHOTOGRAPHS



Upper portion of Gob Pile #2



Graded area on west side of Gob Pile #2

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Pond D



Erosion of inlet at Pond F

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Rail tracks below Gob Pile #3



Pond J

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Slump at B Portal Bench



Slide at Curve 10

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp. 4 April 2027
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN-05, 12 January 2023
Insurance Certificate	Expires 1 May 2024
Bond Documents	SEE COMMENT 1
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	SL2, 30 Decmbr. 2016
Air Emission Permits	98DL0726 Exp. 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA
UG Mining Landowner Notification	Several years
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	May 1, 2023
Vegetation Monitoring Data	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2022
Midterm Review Documents	MT5, 3 October 2019
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions	Through November 2023
Transfers/Succession of Operator	10 August 2009
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2

CERTIFICATIONS

Pond Certifications	3Q 2023
Fill Certifications for Underground Development Waste	Vol. IV for Gob Pile #1
• Quarterly Inspections	3Q 2023
• Compaction Testing	October 2022
• Final Certification	NA
Certs. for Coal Processing Waste Banks	Vols IX, XI (Gob Piles 2, 3, 4)
Haul Road Certifications	1998 and 2013
Access Road Certifications	Map 15 series

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	CO-0044776, Exp.Sept. 2024
NPDES Records (DMRs)	Through October 2023
Stormwater Management Plan	Revised January 2020
SPCC Plan	May 2013
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	3Q 2023
Annual Hydrology Reports	2022
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	NA

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	NA

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS
(specify)**

SWMP Report	July 2023

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COMMENTS:

1. Bond documents entail five corporate sureties (Lexon Company) for total of \$11,448,977.58:
 - o Bond # 1071397 for \$3,154,277.10
 - o Bond # 1071402 for \$1,502,277.97
 - o Bond # 1071403 for \$2,500,000.00
 - o Bond # 1071404 for \$2,217,169.51
 - o Bond # 1071405 for \$2,075,253.00.

2. **The RCE for RN-05 (total of \$11,448,977) is included in the records.**

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