

STATE OF  
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob &lt;rob.zuber@state.co.us&gt;

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## Inspection Report

1 message

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

Fri, Jan 19, 2024 at 12:00 PM

To: "Moline, Ben" &lt;ben.moline@molsoncoors.com&gt;

Hi, Ben -

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

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1001 East 62nd Avenue  
Denver, CO 80216

[rob.zuber@state.co.us](mailto:rob.zuber@state.co.us) | <http://drms.colorado.gov>



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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981028\_RDZ\_01182024.pdf**


1035K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-028 <b>Mine Name:</b> Keenesburg Strip Mine <b>Operator:</b> Coors Energy Company <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Ben Moline P.O. Box 4030 Golden, CO 80402	<b>County:</b> Weld <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> January 17, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> January 17, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:45	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Cloudy
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None	<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None	<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>  
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Robert Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  1/18/2024

**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

NA - Backfill &amp; Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

NA - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

NA - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on January 17, 2024. No Coors Energy Company (CEC) representative was present at the inspection.

The site is in Permanent Cessation. Most reclamation activities were completed in the fall of 2020. Due to poor success in some areas, however, Coors Energy reclaimed some areas again (harrowing and seeding) in the spring of 2022 and fall of 2023.

The weather was cloudy and cold. The ground was mostly covered with snow.

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):**

The records were lacking some documents, including the financial bond and recent DRMS inspection reports.

The operator needs to update the records soon. This should be done prior to February 29, 2024.

Please see the list of records below.

**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:

Sediment Pond 2 and the Dugout Pond contained small amounts of snow. They were not discharging during the inspection. There were no signs that either pond had discharged recently. No problems were observed.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The northern boundary of the site (the down gradient side) was observed, and no signs of pollutant loading from the mine site, or any other problems, were seen.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No erosion problems were seen onsite.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Due to winter conditions, the vegetation was not closely inspected.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none**

**OTHER (SPECIFY) - none**

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**East end of disturbed area, looking south with Area 35 on the left**



**Looking east from Area 43 (in foreground) towards the reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

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**Looking northwest along the north (down gradient) boundary**



**Sediment Pond 2, looking east at embankment**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

**AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**

## PERMIT RECORDS

DRMS Permit	Exp. 11/3/2026
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN-08 (April 2022)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. 11/1/2023
Bond Document	\$1,197,459 (2016, not current)

Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	SL-11 (12/1/2022)
Air Emission Permits	123008803
County Special Use Permits	Weld #1160, #386
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2022 ARR
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2022
Midterm Review Documents	MT-07 (May 2019)
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Yrs)	Sept. 2023
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	*1
CERTIFICATIONS	

Pond Certifications	Yes
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	NA
Access Road Certifications	NA

## HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	NA
NPDES Records	NA
Stormwater Management Plan	NA
SPCC Plan	Updated 2012
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA

**State Engineer's Pond Inspection**

Quarterly Pond Inspections	8/9/2023
Annual Hydrology Reports	2022
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	NA
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	*2

## BLASTING RECORDS

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

## ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

Pest and Weed report	9/22/2023

## COMMENTS:

\*1 RCE is \$818,406 (SL-11)

\*2 Domestic use well and fire protection well (048289f, 24650f)

\*3 No explosives used since 1995.

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