

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 II Water Quality Improvements
Inspection 4th 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 4th 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: December 12, 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 II - Quarterly Water Quality Improvements Inspection

On December 12, 2023, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King Coal II site to conduct the quarterly 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 held water at the time of the inspection though the elevation at the bottom of the pond could not be determined due to water/ice within the pond (see Pic. 1). The removal operations appear to be at a similar stage of completion noted during the previous inspection. Removal of sediment from the pond is on hold due to current water levels. It is anticipated that the remainder of the excess sediment will be removed from the detention pond as soon as site conditions allow. Water is currently being diverted to the south side of the pond via ditch in an attempt to help dry out the upper section of the pond. The lower section of the pond has been isolated via a cut in the existing sediment level to allow for drying of the sediment (see Pic. 2).

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. 3). The outlet pipes were free from debris, sediment and excessive vegetation (see Pic. 4). The water quality pond appears to be in generally good condition even with the sediment removal temporarily on hold. There were no signs of weakness or distress to either the outlet structure or the embankment material. The water quality pond appears to have 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.

The erosion control structures for the treated water ditch located south of the scale house is also in good condition. All ditches should be inspected and repaired as necessary, especially after storm events.

The culvert pipes and ditches on the site were in generally good condition overall. The culvert pipes and ditches 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Griglak", is positioned above the printed name.

Ryan M. Griglak, P.E.
Project Manager



Pic. 1 – Detention Pond-sediment removal progress to date.



Pic. 2 – Sediment removal upstream of outlet structure allowing drying of sediment at pond outlet.



Pic. 3 Outlet structure culverts in good condition, sediment drying out.



Pic. 4 –Sediment pond outlet pipes.