

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: Refuse Pile 4th Quarter 2023

Mr. Wein:

Please find enclosed a copy of Stoner Engineering's Quarterly Inspection report of the King I mine refuse pile/embankment 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 I – Quarterly Waste Pile/Embankment Inspection

On December 11, 2023, Ryan Griglak, P.E. visited the GCC Energy, LLC King I Mine site to conduct the quarterly inspection of the coal waste pile/embankment. Mr. Griglak, P.E. has conducted inspections for the placement of earthwork/embankment fill material for numerous commercial, residential and municipal projects in which buildings, roadways and parking facilities were installed over the placed materials.

The south treated water ditch (Reach 10) was covered in snow while the north clear water ditch (Reach 1) was found to be in generally good condition (see Pic. 1 & Pic. 2). The visible culvert under the haul road (North switchback main pile) was in good condition.

There has been additional waste material placed at the top of the main waste embankment pile since the previous inspection. The waste material along the top face of the main pile has been compacted and the upper section of Reach 10 appears to have been extended to the top waste pile (see Pic. 3). The grading of the waste embankment piles appear to direct surface runoff away from the face of the piles and the required berming is in place. The slope of the top of the existing pile is close to that defined in the Waste Bank Design produced by Don May, 1997.

Crews were in the process of removing the last of the stockpiled material from the lower waste pile to the main pile at the time of the inspection. This will allow for more storage volume on the lower waste pile during winter operations in the event that weather conditions do not permit placement of material on the main waste pile.



The face of the upper and lower waste embankments were not observable due to the existing snow levels (see Pic. 4). There were no signs of instability or sloughing observed on either waste embankment pile at the time of the inspection.

The only structure with any proximity to the embankment material is the old, abandoned bath house which is no longer utilized.

The waste pile has been and continues to be constructed and maintained as specified in the design approved by the Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety. Potential hazards to life and property are minimal due to the fact that GCC has moved most of their operations to their King II facility.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns in regards to the issues that are discussed above.

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

Stoner Engineering & Surveying
Engineering, Testing & Surveying



Pic. 1 –Upper section Reach 10.



Pic. 2 –Upper section Reach 1.



Pic. 3 – Reach 10 appears extended to top of existing pile and embankment face recompacted.



Pic. 4 – Face of the main embankment waste pile.