

STATE OF  
COLORADO

West - DNR, Lucas &lt;lucas.west@state.co.us&gt;

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## C-1981-035 King Jan 2024 Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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**West - DNR, Lucas** <lucas.west@state.co.us>

Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 1:44 PM

To: McCourt Jordan <jmccourt@gcc.com>, Dickson Michael <mdickson@gcc.com>, Clayton Wein - DNR  
<clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR DRMS\_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr\_drms\_coal\_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon Guys,

Attached below is my inspection report from our visit last week. As usual things look good even though it's so muddy! No maintenance items were identified so we are good to go. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks,  
Lucas

Lucas West  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Minerals Program, Grand Junction Field Office



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

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**C-1981-035 Jan 2024 Partial Inspection Report.pdf**


2199K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-035 <b>Mine Name:</b> King Coal Mine <b>Operator:</b> GCC Energy, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Jordan McCourt 6473 County Road 120 Hesperus, CO 81326	<b>County:</b> La Plata <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Michael Dickson
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> January 23, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 14:24 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> January 23, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 15:50	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear
<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>  Lucas West	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b> 1/31/2024

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Roads

N - Availability of Records

N - Reclamation Success

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Revegetation

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Subsidence

N - Explosives

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

N - Support Facilities On-site

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Signs and Markers

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Other

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Processing Waste

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection conducted by Lucas West of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety as part of the normal monitoring program for permitted sites. Michael Dickson of GCC accompanied the inspection and represented the Operator. Normal activities were taking place at the mine during the inspection. At the King II area, the stackers were active and trucks were being loaded at the time of the inspection. At the King I facility no activity was taking place at the time of the inspection. The weather was clear and extremely muddy. Eight Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The overall footprint of the site is in good condition, despite being excessively muddy. No problems or maintenance items were identified during the inspection.

**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:

At the King II Facility the main focus of the inspection was the internal drainage structures and the main sediment pond to monitor snowmelt and sediment conveyance. The main sediment pond is in good condition and contains standing water as seen in Photo One. The banks of the pond appear stable and no evidence of discharge, or recent discharge was noted. Photo Two shows the main inlet culvert leading into the pond. The culvert was free from obstruction and flowing freely, delivering active snowmelt to the pond. Various other points in the extensive network of internal drainage structures were observed, all to be unobstructed and free flowing. Examples of the other internal structures can be seen in Photos Three and Four. All structures, and the pond appear to be functioning as designed and handling the snowmelt well.

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

At the King I facility, the main focus was to observe the condition of the recently repaired Lower Refuse Pile, its drainage structures, and the stockpile of waste material that is being stored there for the winter. The pad of the LRP is in good condition and well compacted. The stockpile of waste material is in good condition and

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

appeared stable at the time of the inspection. The out slopes of the stockpile show no signs of settling or slumping. The pad area, as well as the stockpile can be seen in Photos Five and Six. The repaired area, in the northeastern portion of the pile, was observed to be in excellent condition. The compaction on the pad appears to be holding well, and the out slopes show no signs of settling or slumping. The out slope leading to Reach 13 appears stable and Reach 13 remains clear and unobstructed. This repaired area can be seen in Photos Seven and Eight.

The drainage structures designed to convey water along the back side of the LRP were clear and unobstructed. Snow removal efforts have been ongoing ensuring that excessive snowmelt does not cause any issues. all of the drainage structures were in good condition.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo One: View South, showing the main sediment pond at the King II Facility. The pond still contains cleanout material and water, however, was not discharging during the inspection.

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Photo Four: View East, showing another example of the free-flowing drainage structures, at the intersection of the fan access road and the lower area.



Photo Five: View Northeast, showing pad and winter stockpile of refuse material at the Lower Refuse Pile at the King I Facility.

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Photo Eight: View North, showing the section of Reach 13 that follows the valley of the repaired area. The reach is snow packed, but unobstructed and appears to be able to function as designed.

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