

STATE OF
COLORADO

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>

Inspection Report, Peabody Sage Creek Mine, C-2009-087

1 message

Ridley - DNR, Hunter <hunter.ridley@state.co.us>
To: "Kawcak, Miranda" <mkawcak@peabodyenergy.com>

Mon, Feb 12, 2024 at 11:37 AM

Miranda,

Please find attached the Division's report for the February complete inspection at the Peabody Sage Creek Mine, C-2009-087. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Hunter Ridley (she/her/hers)
Environmental Protection Specialist I



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

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SageCreek_Feb_CC.pdf
1433K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-2009-087 Mine Name: Peabody Sage Creek Mine Operator: Peabody Sage Creek Mining, LLC Operator Address: Ms Mirdanda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	County: Routt Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Temporary Cessation Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present:
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: February 6, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 12:30 Inspection End Date: February 6, 2024 Inspection End Time: 13:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear / Cloudy	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts:	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts:	
Inspector(s): Hunter Ridley	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: February 12, 2024

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection of the Peabody Sage Creek Mine; DRMS Permit No. C-2009-087, operated by Peabody Sage Creek Mining, LLC (PSCM). This inspection was conducted by Hunter Ridley with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The Sage Creek Mine is an inactive non-producing mine currently in Temporary Cessation since 2017. Representative Miranda Kawcak was present at the time of the inspection and at the records check at the Foidel Creek Mine.

Please address the Bold items below.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

Records were checked at the mine office. See details at the end of report. **Please update the bolded / highlighted items marked ‘update’.**

SIGNS AND MARKERS—Rule 4.02

Mine identification markers were observed throughout the site (Photo 1). A scale, scale house, and office buildings are located near the site entrance.

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:

Although snow-covered, all ponds and sumps at the site were discharging slightly at the time of inspection (Photo 6). NPDES #7, located by the site’s main office buildings, was also discharging but heavily snow-covered (Photo 2). Due to snow covered conditions, it is unclear if PSCM has made the appropriate repairs to the NPDES #7 culvert as noted in the last inspection report. This will continue to be a maintenance item. **Please inform the Division when the appropriate repairs have been completed.**

Mine water and snowmelt are still able to be pumped from the portal area should this be necessary. A float system which automatically turns on pumps when needed at the portal entry is in place (Photo 4).

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 0

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

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):

All haul roads, A through F, were well maintained and recently plowed (Photo 5). The Peabody Sage Creek Mine is not usually plowed in the winter, but equipment salvaging activities- further discussed in the next section- were planned for the coming weeks.

SUPPORT FACILITIES – Rule 4.04:

As this site is in temporary cessation, many of the on-site support facilities are unused. This includes storage buildings, a water tank located along Road B, and other unused storage areas. These areas remain organized and contained. Old conveyor equipment stored at the southeastern ‘Material/Coal Storage Area’ will be transported and used to build a temporary conveyor at the Foidel Creek Mine to replace a recently damaged conveyor tube at the Foidel Creek wash plant (Photo 3).

TOPSOIL— Rule 4.06 Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4. 06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4. 06. 3; Redistribution 4. 06.4:

There is one large topsoil pile onsite located adjacent to the Pecoco pond. The pile appears stable, undisturbed, and well vegetated under the snow. A small, orange flag marks this pile as topsoil.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

Ongoing maintenance issues from previous inspection:

- The ditch around the portal area needs to be cleared of cattail growth to maintain proper drainage in the area in spring/summer months.
- Additional disturbance markers are recommended.
- Culvert at NPDES #7 needs to be repaired.
- Continue to monitor the pipe below Pond 002 for leakage or blowout.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: Mine signage located at the intersection of the access road and CR 27A.



Photo 2: Culvert and discharge location NPDES #7 were covered in snow and inaccessible without snow shoes.

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Photo 3: Extra conveyor equipment stored at the Peabody Sage Creek Mine will be transported to the Foidel Creek Mine and used to build a temporary conveyor for the recently damaged wash plant facility.



Photo 4: View east of the portal entry area.

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Photo 5: Roads were plowed to allow for access to maintenance facilities if needed.



Photo 6: View west of Pond 3, pond was snow-covered but discharging at the time of inspection.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	***Exp 8/20/25
Permit Application w/Revisions	MR 27 - 19
Findings Document	RN2
Insurance Certificate	Exp 8/1/24
Bond Document	CS
Phased Bond Release	SL4
Documents/Findings	
Air Emission Permits	Issued 9/4/2012 (Aug 2017, APEN update Exp 2023)
County Special Use Permits	2/9/16 Exp 2026
UG Mining Landowner Notification	2/29/2011
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	2 & 3rd Q 2012
Subsidence Monitoring Data	2 & 3rd Q 2012
Rill & Gully Survey	June 2018
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2014
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2019
Midterm Review Documents	***Feb 2023 MT3
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Oct 2020
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	SO1
Temporary Cessation Notification	Jan 2017
Reclamation Cost Estimate	RN1
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	***PAP Ex. 2
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	3 Q 2023
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	***PAP
Access Road Certifications	***PAP

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	Exp Dec 2020 Update
NPDES Records	***Online LF
Stormwater Management Plan	Dec 2013
SPCC Plan	Sept. 19, 2014
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	3 Q 2023
Quarterly Pond Inspections	4Q 2023
Annual Hydrology Reports	***Online LF
• Ground Water Monitoring	AHR
• Surface Water Monitoring	AHR
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	AHR
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NE
Well Permits	***Online LF

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	Exp. 2019
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	NA

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS
(specify)**

COMMENTS:

***A majority of larger records documents are kept digitally in a publicly available computer at the site office.

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