



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Trujillo - DNR, Zach <zach.trujillo@state.co.us>

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## Colowyo Mine Inspection Report

1 message

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**Trujillo - DNR, Zach** <zach.trujillo@state.co.us>

Mon, Mar 4, 2024 at 8:16 AM

To: "Tennyson, Tony (Colowyo)" <ttennyson@tristategt.org>

Tony,

Please see the attached inspection report for the Colowyo Mine, C-1981-019. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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

**Zach Trujillo**  
Environmental Protection Specialist

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**2-27-24.pdf**

297K

**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-019 <b>Mine Name:</b> Colowyo Coal Mine <b>Operator:</b> Colowyo Coal Company L.P. <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Tony Tennyson 5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641	<b>County:</b> Moffat, Rio Blanco <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Tony Tennyson and Tom Fry
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> February 27, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 08:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> February 27, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 10:00		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Snowing	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  None	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>  None	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Zach Trujillo	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  		<b>Signature Date:</b>  3/4/24

## Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - 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

N - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

## COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection by the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) of the Colowyo Mine conducted by Zach Trujillo of the Division on February 27, 2024. Tom Fry representing Colowyo Coal Company (Colowyo) accompanied the inspection. The weather during the inspection was heavy snow and high winds which created “white-out” conditions. Ground conditions were snow cover of 1+ feet. Temperatures during the inspection were around 20 degrees fahrenheit. Due to adverse weather conditions, Colowyo went under “Pit Advisery” during the inspection which had all pits closed due to snow accumulation and lack of visibility. The South Taylor, East and West Pit were not inspected as the areas were not accessible. Collom Pit was accessible as snow removal efforts were focused in this area during the inspection. Associated ponds and support facilities with Collom were not inspected as they were not accessible.

### 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:

Due to high winds and heavy snowfall, the pond inspection areas were limited to just the lower elevation areas of the Gossard Loadout. Gossard and Rail Loop Ponds were inspected. These ponds are total containment ponds and do not discharge. Both ponds held minimal water and were visibly stable. Due to snow depths and lack of visibility, the Stoker Siding Pond could not be inspected.



Rail Loop Pond.



Gossard Pond.

#### GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

Progress in the Collom Pit was inspected. No active mining was occurring at the time of the inspection as the Mine was under Pit Advisory due to weather conditions. Based on the previous month's inspection, progression in the primary portion of the Collom Pit continues to progress west along the current floor elevation. Progression of highwall mining within the Little Collom Gulch was not inspected due to access from snow.



Collom Pit.

#### 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):

Primary operations observed during the inspection was snow removal and plowing efforts. Primary routes focused on were in support of mining operations which included Haul Roads A, B and Collom along with Collom in-pit haul roads. Discussions were had regarding access to the eastern portion of the Collom Pit. Previous inspection noted additional fill being placed along the intersection of the current Collom in-pit haul road and the eastern portion of the Collom Pit. This additional fill is to assist in access for future highwall mining within this portion of the pit.

#### SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The mine identification sign along the Mine's security entrance was inspected. All information for compliance was present.



### **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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