



STATE OF
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Bowie #2 inspection report

1 message

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Fri, May 24, 2024 at 3:00 PM

To: Basil Bear <basilbear@wolverinefuels.com>, Tamme Bishop <tammekb@gmail.com>

Hello -

Please see the attached report.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

I am working remotely and can be reached by cell at 720.601.2276.

Physical Address:

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Mailing Address:

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215
1001 East 62nd Avenue
Denver, CO 80216

rob.zuber@state.co.us | <http://drms.colorado.gov>




INSP-REPORTC_C1996083_RDZ_05242024.pdf
3148K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-083 Mine Name: Bowie No. 2 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Basil Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Basil Bear
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: May 22, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 06:50 Inspection End Date: May 22, 2024 Inspection End Time: 13:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
Joint Inspection Agency: None		Joint Inspection Contacts:	
Post Inspection Agency: None		Post Inspection Contacts:	
Inspector(s): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 5/24/2024

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

Y - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on May 22, 2024. A pre-inspection meeting was held with Basil Bear in his office. Mr. Bear reiterated that BRL's surveyor has completed the survey for Gob Pile #3. He stated that BRL staff are in the process of moving a pile of refuse from the Coal Stockpile Pad to Gob Pile #2, and stakes have been set at this pile related to compaction. He stated that the amount of material will only require a partial lift. Mr. Bear was present during the first part of the field inspection at Ponds C and D and at Gob Piles 2 and 4.

The weather was clear and warm. The ground was muddy due to recent rain. Due to mud, the Hubbard Creek areas were not accessed.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were found to be very well organized and mostly complete. The air quality document appears to be outdated and should be updated. Please see the Availability of Records form in this report.

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:

Six sediment ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, J, and K. None of the ponds were close to discharging, but most contained visible water. Pond K was dry. The bottom of Pond J is obscured by cattails, and no water was seen, but it is likely that there was water on the bottom of the pond. No significant problems were identified with embankments, spillways, inlet channels, or other features of the ponds.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

No problems with ditches were identified. From Gob Pile #2, no blow outs were identified with the diversion ditches above.

Three culverts along the haul road were inspected: C-B9, C-C10, and C-B11. All of them are corrugated plastic pipes and are 24 inches or smaller in diameter. All of them were clear of debris and appeared to be functioning well.

The Fire Mountain Canal was flowing full.

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

Gob Piles 1, 2, 3, and 4 appeared stable. No problem was identified at the repaired blow out on Gob Pile #4, which occurred in the spring of 2023.

The small ditches and BMPs on the upper part of Gob Pile #2 appeared to be functioning. No puddles were observed on the area where gob has recently been spread. The rills on Gob Pile #2 (discussed in previous inspection reports) have been graded in preparation for the placement of coverfill material.

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):

The road to the portals was in adequate condition. The slopes adjacent to this road are generally stable, except for the slide at Curve 10 (see Slides and Other Damage section).

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Some thistle plants were seen, including near the ditch east of Gob Pile #2 and above Pond F. Mr. Bear indicated that he has begun spraying weeds this spring and will continue through the summer.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

No problems were seen on the slopes above and below the benches. The slides above the B Portal Bench and Curve 11 (noted in the past) look stable. The slide above Curve Number 10 appears to have not moved more since April. This is an ongoing project for BRL.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

Structures were inspected on several benches (the D Portal Bench was inspected during a previous inspection) as indicated by headings below. Heights of structures were estimated with a laser instrument and horizontal dimensions were estimated by counting paces.

Storage Area by Topsoil Stockpile A

- Smaller building
 - 20 feet wide by 40 feet long
 - 20 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Larger building
 - 20 feet wide by 110 feet long
 - 20 feet high
 - Foundation only at posts

B Portal Bench

- Storage building east of portal
 - 25 feet wide by 45 feet long
 - 16 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Rock bins (concrete walls)
 - 15 feet wide by 20 feet long
 - 10 feet high
 - No foundation visible
- Rock dust storage bin
 - 8-foot diameter
 - 32 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Wash bay
 - 22 feet wide by 40 feet long
 - 24 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete footer
- MCC building
 - 10 feet wide by 15 feet long
 - 12 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete footer
- TRANSF
 - Compressor and other electrical equipment
 - Foundation is concrete slab (approximately 150 square feet)
- Transfer building
 - 25 feet wide by 30 feet long
 - 45 feet high

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

B Portal Bench (continued)

- Gob bin (concrete walls)
 - 10 feet wide by 25 feet long
 - 8 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Wall below bench
 - 120 feet long
 - One-foot-thick wall
 - Approximately 4 feet high

Transfer Building above the B Portal Bench

- Transfer building
 - 12 feet wide by 12 feet long
 - 20 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Other building
 - 12 feet wide by 14 feet long
 - 14 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Electrical equipment on concrete slab – small area

Utility Bench

- Water treatment building
 - 10 feet wide by 30 feet long
 - 20 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete footer
- Water tank
 - 45-foot diameter
 - 33 feet high
- Mine vent fan
 - 25 feet wide by 150 feet long
 - 15-20 feet high
- Substation
 - 35 feet wide by 40 feet long
- Other electrical equipment and ground field – small area

Water Tank West of Prep Plant Bench

- 22-foot diameter
- 24 feet high

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

Prep Plant Bench

- Synfuel plant
 - 30 feet wide by 55 feet long
 - 37 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab
- Prep Plant
 - 45 feet wide by 55 feet long
 - 70 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete footer
- MCC building
 - 12 feet wide by 30 feet long
 - 12 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete footer
- Structure north of MCC building (modular building, no foundation)
 - 6 feet wide by 30 feet long
 - 9 feet high
- Thickener
 - 75-foot diameter
 - 8 feet high
- Substation
 - 40 feet wide by 60 feet long
- 60-ton truck bin
 - 22 feet wide by 22 feet long
 - 50 feet high

Coal Stockpile Pad

- Diesel tank
 - 5-foot diameter
 - 10 feet long
- Transfer building
 - 15 feet wide by 15 feet long
 - 30 feet high
 - Foundation – blocks at corners
- Bent protector - east
 - 15 feet wide by 50 feet long
 - 42 feet high
- Bent protector - west
 - 15 feet wide by 40 feet long
 - 20 feet high
- Stacking tubes (three of them on this pad)
 - All are 10-foot diameter
 - North one is 107 feet high
 - Southeast one is 104 feet high
 - Southwest one is 134 feet high

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

Office and Pump House Area

- MCC building by engineering office
 - 10 feet wide by 13 feet long
 - 13 feet high
 - Slab foundation
- Pump House
 - 12 feet wide by 25 feet long
 - 12 feet high
- Filter building
 - 17 feet wide by 25 feet long
 - 12 feet high

Train Loadout and Area North of Loadout

- Batch weigh system
 - 23 feet wide by 30 feet long
 - 120 feet high
 - Foundation – blocks at corners
- Storage shed west of Gob Pile #3 - west
 - 10 feet wide by 37 feet long
 - 12 feet high
 - No foundation
- Storage shed west of Gob Pile #3 - east
 - 25 feet wide by 42 feet long
 - 12 feet high
 - Foundation is concrete slab

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

No erosion or other problems were seen with topsoil stockpiles or coverfill piles.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none

OTHER (SPECIFY) - none

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

PHOTOGRAPHS



Gob Pile #3, from above



Gob Pile #3, from below

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Graded slope at Gob Pile #2



Waste material placed on Gob Pile #2

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Storage shed at B Portal Bench



Compressor and other equipment at B Portal Bench

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Slide at Curve 10



D Portal Bench

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Pond F



Pond J

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Looking towards Gob Pile #4 from Pond J, with topsoil stockpile on right

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp. 4 April 2027
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN-05, 12 January 2023
Insurance Certificate	Expires 1 May 2025
Bond Documents	SEE COMMENT 1
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	SL2, 30 Decmbr. 2016
Air Emission Permits	98DL0726 Exp. 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA
UG Mining Landowner Notification	Several years
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	February 29, 2024
Vegetation Monitoring Data	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2023
Midterm Review Documents	MT5, 3 October 2019
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions	Through April 2024
Transfers/Succession of Operator	10 August 2009
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2

CERTIFICATIONS

Pond Certifications	3Q 2023
Fill Certifications for Underground Development Waste	Vol. IV for Gob Pile #1
• Quarterly Inspections	4Q 2023
• Compaction Testing	October 2022
• Final Certification	NA
Certs. for Coal Processing Waste Banks	Vols IX, XI (Gob Piles 2, 3, 4)
Haul Road Certifications	1998 and 2013
Access Road Certifications	Map 15 series

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	CO-0044776, Exp.Sept. 2024
NPDES Records (DMRs)	Through April 2024
Stormwater Management Plan	Revised January 2020
SPCC Plan	August 2023
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	1Q 2024
Annual Hydrology Reports	2022
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	NA

BLASTING RECORDS

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

**ADDITIONAL RECORDS
(specify)**

SWMP Report	April 2024

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

COMMENTS:

1. Bond documents entail five corporate sureties (Lexon Company) for total of \$11,448,977.58:
 - o Bond # 1071397 for \$3,154,277.10
 - o Bond # 1071402 for \$1,502,277.97
 - o Bond # 1071403 for \$2,500,000.00
 - o Bond # 1071404 for \$2,217,169.51
 - o Bond # 1071405 for \$2,075,253.00.

2. **The RCE for RN-05 (total of \$11,448,977) is included in the records.**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4