

STATE OF
COLORADO

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

C-1981-035 King June 2024 Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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

Tue, Jun 18, 2024 at 2:03 PM

To: McCourt Jordan <jmccourt@gcc.com>, Wymore Wade <wwymore@gcc.com>, Michael Dickson <michael@summitmining.co>, Clayton Wein - DNR <clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon All,

Please find the attached Inspection Report from our partial last week. The maintenance items we talked about have all been resolved and that is reflected in the report. Please 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 June 2024 Partial Inspection Report.pdf**


2544K



PERMIT INFORMATION

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

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: June 11, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 12:57 Inspection End Date: June 11, 2024 Inspection End Time: 15:00	Inspection Type: Coal Partial 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): Lucas West	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 6/18/2024

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
 N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
 N - Other
 R - Processing Waste

N - Roads
 N - Reclamation Success
 N - Revegetation
 N - Subsidence
 N - Slides and Other Damage
 N - Support Facilities On-site
 N - Signs and Markers
 N - Support Facilities Not On-site
 N - Special Categories Of Mining
 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. Jordan McCourt 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 dry. Ten Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The overall footprint of the site is in good condition. No problems were identified during the inspection, but a few maintenance items were identified, two drainages needed to be reestablished at the King I Lower Refuse Pile and one culvert needed to be cleaned at the King II area along the main access road leading to the sediment pond. All maintenance items were completed prior to this report, and therefore require no further action and are considered resolved at this time.

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:

King I:

At the King I facility both the East and West Sediment Ponds were observed. Both ponds were in good condition and cleanout efforts started last summer have not yet resumed. The West Pond contained no standing water and sediment loads are well below design levels. The East Pond also contained no standing water and sediment levels are well below design levels. No evidence of discharge was observed and the inlet structures for both ponds are free from obstruction and able to function as designed. The ponds can be seen in Photos One and Two.

At the Lower Refuse Pile (LRP) a temporary access road has been constructed to place waste material on the face of the slope. The details of that plan will be discussed later in this report, however in doing so, the temporary access road and pad area that was constructed obstructed the path of Reach 13 of the internal drainage system. Reach 13 is designed to flow along the Northeast side of the LRP terminating in a sump that connects to Reach 7. The termination point of Reach 13 can be observed in Photo Three and was listed as a maintenance item as

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mentioned in the introduction to this report. In the days following the inspection, the Operator has re-established Reach 13 and provided photo documentation of such. According to the Photos the drainage is able to function as designed and this maintenance item is considered resolved. A second drainage was also observed that needed to be re-established as well. The section of Reach 10 that crosses the access point to the LRP was observed to be temporarily filled in as seen in Photo Four. During times when the Operator is hauling Gob material to the LRP, that drainage is filled in to allow for truck traffic, and re-established at the end of the shift. At the time of the inspection they had anticipated hauling Gob material, however, due to personnel issues hauling activities were not active. Similar to Reach 13, the drainage was re-established the same day. Both maintenance items are considered resolved and no further action is needed from the Operator.

King II:

At the King II facility the main sediment pond was observed to be in good condition. The pond, as seen in Photo Five, contained standing water that was focused more on the North end of the Pond. Cleanout efforts that were started last summer have not yet resumed, and no evidence of discharge was noted. The banks are well vegetated and appeared stable at the time, and the inlet culverts were free from obstruction and able to function as designed. The upgradient culverts leading to the sediment pond were mostly clear and free from obstruction. The inlet of one culvert, identified as C5, along the access road needed to be cleaned of sediment. The culvert was actively being cleared as the inspection concluded and the Operator provided photo documentation that the work had been completed. This maintenance item is considered resolved and no further action is needed from the Operator.

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

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

King I:

As stated previously in this report, the Operator has constructed a small access road from the top of the LRP to the toe of the existing slope for hauling operations to bring the existing stockpile of Gob material down to the toe of the slope for placement and compaction along the length of the slope. According to the Operator, recent surveys found that there was excess fill capacity along the slope to bring it up to final design levels. The access road and landing at the bottom of the road are both temporary in order to achieve this goal. According to the Operator the material will be trammed to the bottom, placed in lifts and compacted until the final slope is achieved. Any excess material will be cut with a dozer and placed on the top of the pile. The access road is in good condition and signs of settling or erosion was noted. The access road and lower landing can be seen in Photos Six through Eight. The outcome of the temporary road should result in the LRP matching the final designs as permitted and no problems were noted with this activity. On top of the LRP, the stockpile is in good condition and appeared stable at the time of the inspection.

The Upper Refuse Pile (URP) was also observed during this inspection. The stockpile located at the East end of the URP is in good condition and appeared stable at the time of the inspection. Material is being drawn from the stockpile and placed in lifts along pile and compacted in compliance with the design specifications. The stockpile and pad can be seen in Photos Nine and Ten. At the Southwest corner of the pad, near where surface runoff is directed to Reach 10 of the internal drainage system, very minor erosion was noted. It was not considered a problem at the time, however it was mentioned to the Operator to keep an eye on. After the inspection the Operator elected to place rocks along the shoulder of the slope to prevent any further erosion.

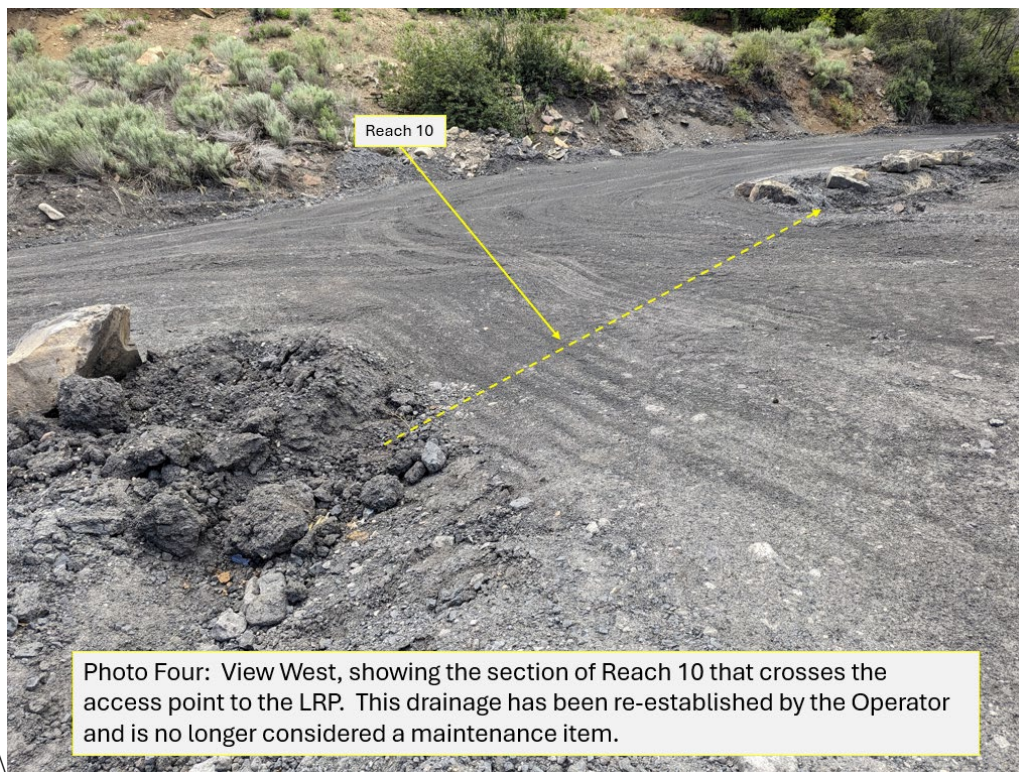
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PHOTOGRAPHS

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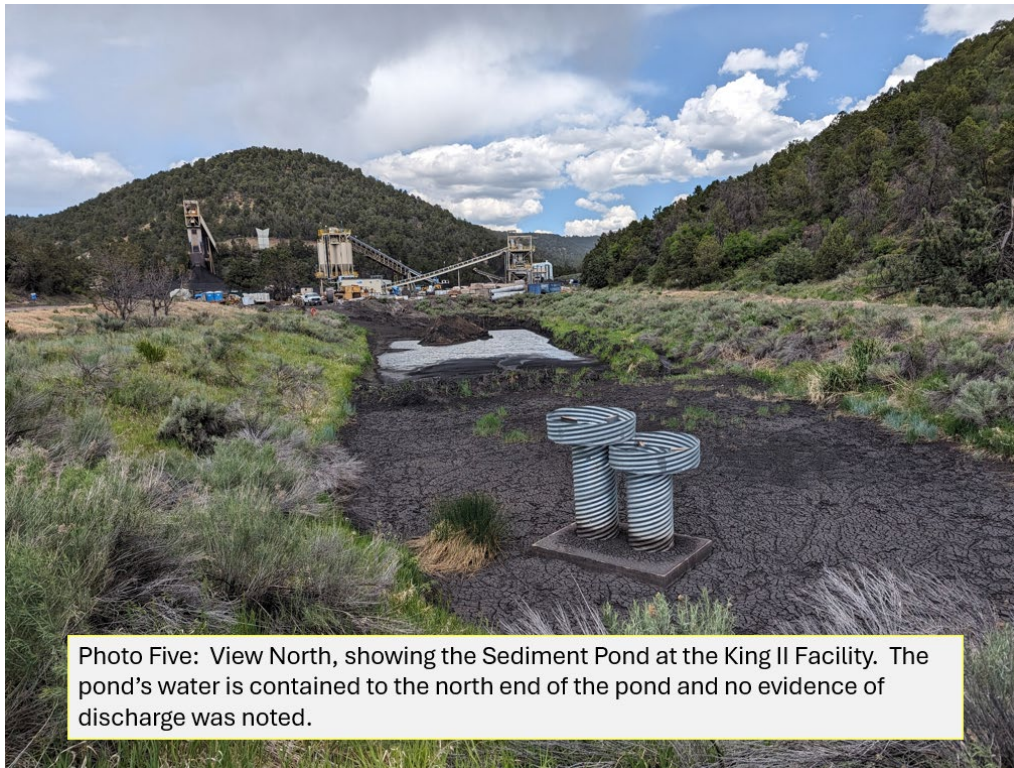


Photo Five: View North, showing the Sediment Pond at the King II Facility. The pond's water is contained to the north end of the pond and no evidence of discharge was noted.



Photo Six: View North, showing the start of the new temporary access road installed on the LRP to haul Gob material down for placement on the slope.

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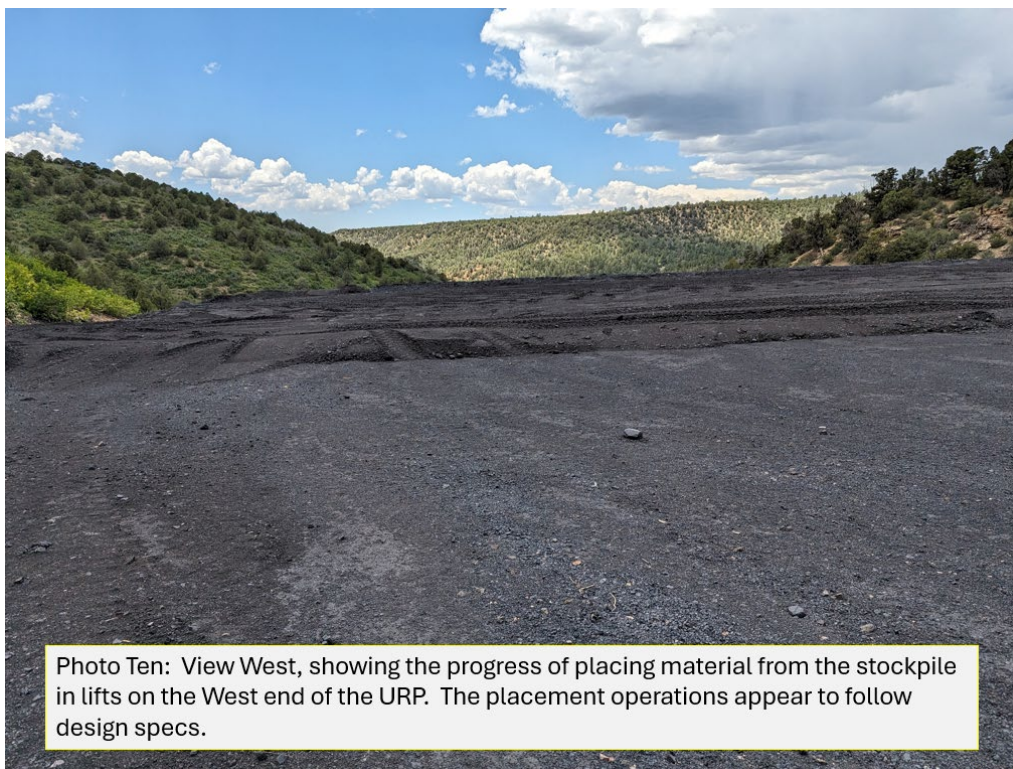
Photo Seven: View Northeast, showing another view of the temporary access road as it rounds the bend. Also visible is the landing and toe of the slope which will be the furthest extent of the pile in compliance with designs.



Photo Eight: View West looking back across the landing to the temporary access road. The existing stockpile on top of the LRP will be used to advance the slope to final design specs.

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