



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## Inspection report for Bowie #2 Mine

1 message

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

Thu, Jul 18, 2024 at 2:55 PM

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

Hello, All -

Please see my report from my inspection yesterday.

Thanks again for your time, Ken!

Take care,  
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.*

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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1996083\_RDZ\_07182024.pdf**  
3159K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> July 17, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 06:45 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> July 17, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 11:15		<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>  Robert Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  		<b>Signature Date:</b>  7/18/2024

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

**R** - Air Resource Protection**N** - Availability of Records**Y** - Backfill & Grading**NA** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**R** - Fish & Wildlife**R** - Hydrologic Balance**Y** - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan**N** - Other**R** - Processing Waste**R** - Roads**Y** - Reclamation Success**R** - Revegetation**N** - Subsidence**R** - Slides and Other Damage**R** - Support Facilities On-site**N** - Signs and Markers**N** - Support Facilities Not On-site**Y** - Special Categories Of Mining**R** - Topsoil**COMMENTS**

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on July 17, 2024. A pre-inspection meeting was held with Ken Pitt in the office on site. Mr. Pitt stated that BRL staff have cleaned many ditches and culverts after a large rain in July. They have also been working on Gob Pile #2, namely the grading of upper slopes and placing coverfill material. Mr. Pitt also indicated that all of the gob material has been compacted. Regarding Gob Pile #3, he intends to work the east side of the pile in 2024, to ensure that it is not too steep.

The weather was clear and warm. The ground was mostly dry.

**AIR RESOURCE PROTECTION – Rule 4.17:**

Mr. Pitt indicated that they have been using a water truck while moving the haul truck on dirt roads. This truck was not seen during the inspection. BRL is encouraged to use the water truck frequently.

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

A small deer was seen at Topsoil Stockpile A.

**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:

(A note on pond nomenclature: permit maps use the term “Pond B” but the sign says “B Pond.” The terms are used interchangeably by the Division.)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

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

The Division recommended in previous months that willows and small trees be removed or killed on the pond side of Pond J. BRL has removed them.

It was apparent that ditches have been cleaned onsite, per Mr. Pitt's statement.

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. Gob Pile #3 is still covered with vegetation; it was clear that BRL has not worked on this pile in recent weeks.

A haul truck was seen dumping coverfill material on the upper slopes of Gob Pile #2. The truck was loaded by an excavator at the soil pile near Pond F. The riprap channel on this slope needs to be reconstructed. No problems were seen with the upper (flat) portion of this pile. It is graded for water to flow to the east side and off the pile. No erosion or low spots were identified.

#### 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:

Thistle plants were seen in many locations:

- The lower portion of Gob Pile #2, near the road
- On the west side of Gob Pile #3 (very large plants)
- The north slope above the D Portal Bench
- The Utility Bench

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

Other weeds were also seen:

- Knapweed behind the “8” sign, at Curve 8
- Mullein at the Utility Bench
- Chicory in the parking area west of the office on D Portal Bench and also along the road beside Pond B

**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 a large amount since June. This is an ongoing project for BRL.

**SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:**

The following areas appeared stable with no signs of erosion:

- Utility Bench
- D Portal bench and storage area to the east
- B Portal bench
- Material storage area beside Topsoil Stockpile A
- Conveyor corridors
- Slopes above and below the Coal Stockpile Pad
- The area around the office
- Preparation Plant and nearby water tank
- Old power plant
- Storage area west of Pond D
- The train loadout and tracks on either side of the loadout (for approximately 600 feet)

**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: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Gob Piles 1, 2, and 4, from upper Haul Road**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0





**Gob Pile #2 – source of material is in middle of photo**



**Gob Pile #2 – dumping coverfill on upper slope**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0





**Gob Piles 1 and 4**



**Pond F**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0





**Pond D**



**Pond J with vegetation removed from inner bank**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0





**D Portal Bench – structures at southwest corner**



**Chicory plant in parking lot next to parking by office on D Portal Bench**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0





**Knapweed at Curve 8**



**Knapweed at Curve 8**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0