



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Bowles - DNR, Brock <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

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## July inspection report

1 message

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**Bowles - DNR, Brock** <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

Thu, Jul 18, 2024 at 4:00 PM

To: Miranda Kawcak <mkawcak@peabodyenergy.com>, "Howard, Michael" <MHoward@peabodyenergy.com>

Miranda,  
Attached is the inspection report for the inspection conducted on July 8, 2024.  
Brock

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**Brock Bowles**  
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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## COLORADO


Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety

Department of Natural Resources

### PERMIT INFORMATION

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1982-056 <b>Mine Name:</b> Foidel Creek Mine <b>Operator:</b> Twentymile Coal, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Ms. Miranda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road No. 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Michael Peterson
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

### INSPECTION INFORMATION

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> July 8, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 11:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> July 8, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 14:00		<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>  Brock Bowles	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  		<b>Signature Date:</b>  July 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 - Roads
N - Availability of Records	N - Reclamation Success
N - Backfill & Grading	Y - Revegetation
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	N - Subsidence
N - Explosives	N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Fish & Wildlife	N - Support Facilities On-site
Y - Hydrologic Balance	N - Signs and Markers
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	Y - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Other	N - Special Categories Of Mining
Y - Processing Waste	N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Foidel Creek Mine conducted by Brock Bowles with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division). Michael Peterson of Twentymile Coal, LLC. (TC) was present for the inspection.

The weather at the time of the inspection was clear, warm and the ground was dry.

**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:

The culvert outlet under the batch weigh loadout road needs to have the cattails cleared (photo 1). The cattails are densely clustered at the end of the culvert, effectively blocking any water flow. This maintenance item was brought up in the June 11, 2024 inspection report and needs to be addressed.

The E-1 ditch behind the maintenance shop was noted in the April 10, 2024 inspection report as being blocked by a pile of ice and debris. The large pile has melted and is no longer blocking the ditch but some debris remains in the ditch that needs to be removed to ensure proper operation (photo 2). Approximately 100 west of that pile there is another pile that is partially obstructing the E-1 ditch (photo 3). This pile also needs to be removed from the ditch to ensure the ditch can operate as designed. Both of these maintenance items were identified in the June 11, 2024 inspection report and need to be addressed.

The area to the west of the stocker coal loadout building needs to be addressed because it is not properly controlling runoff. The loadout building is on a piece of ground directly over Foidel Creek and a retaining wall is in place to provide foundational support for the building. A concrete pad located on the opposite side of loadout building is used for the coal haul trucks to park on while being loaded. This concrete pad is approximately 18” higher than the retaining wall. This difference in height directs surface water to flow from the concrete pad towards the retaining wall. During coal loading operations, some coal falls onto the concrete pad which is then

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0

swept off the pad into a pile in the direction of the retaining wall. A silt fence was installed in this area in an attempt to control the sediment, but has failed (photo 4). A section of the fence is buried in coal and water can flow around the end of the fence. Due to space constraints and topography of the area, a different method of sediment control should be utilized for this area, such as an earthen berm. Surface runoff needs to be directed to the sump located about 100 feet west of the stoker coal load out. This item was identified in the June 11, 2024 inspection report and needs to be addressed soon.

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

##### Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

The wash plant was in operation and waste was being hauled to the waste pile and end dumped on the east side of the pile. The top of the waste pile had been graded since the last inspection (photo 5). There were still a few areas that had not been graded but a majority of the piles seen during the last inspection had been graded. The top of the pile was sloping to the east and south to allow for positive drainage. No standing water was seen on the pile.

#### REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

##### Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The lift below the active working zone of the coal refuse pile is being prepared for reclamation. The face of the lower lift has been graded to 2.8h:1v as outlined in Exhibit 26A-1 in the permit, although, the slope angle was not verified during this inspection. Subsoil was being end dumped down the face of the lift by a haul truck (photo 6) as part of the required minimum 4.0 feet of suitable cover (2.05-97.5).

#### OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

The 18LT Dewatering Borehole pad was inspected. A new borehole is proposed for this location in MR326 (photo 7). The topsoil pile was vegetation and it appeared that the whitetop had been recently treated. The sumps were clear of obstructions.

#### DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

#### OTHER (SPECIFY)

### **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 – Cattails are blocking water flow at culvert discharge. Yellow arrow pointing at culvert.



Photo 2 – Ditch E1 needs to be cleaned to ensure proper operation.

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Photo 3 – The 2<sup>nd</sup> location in Ditch E1 that needs to be cleaned.



Photo 4 – The silt fence is inadequate to control erosion in this area.

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Photo 5 – Top of coal refuse disposal area facing north.



Photo 6 – Soil being placed on face of coal refuse disposal pile.

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Photo 7 – 18LT Dewatering Borehole Surface Pad.

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