



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

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## C1981022, Elk Creek Mine, July Inspection Report

1 message

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**Simmons - DNR, Leigh** <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>  
To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Mon, Jul 22, 2024 at 11:56 AM

Attached.

Leigh Simmons  
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981022\_LDS\_07222024113949.pdf**  
658K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-022 <b>Mine Name:</b> Elk Creek Mine <b>Operator:</b> Oxbow Mining, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Doug Smith 3737 Hwy 133 P. O. Box 535 Somerset, CO 81434	<b>County:</b> Delta, Gunnison <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Doug Smith
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> July 17, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> <b>Inspection End Time:</b>	<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>  Leigh Simmons	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  July 22, 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 &amp; Grading

R - Revegetation

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Subsidence

N - Explosives

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Hydrologic Balance

N - Signs and Markers

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

R - Other

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Processing Waste

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection by Leigh Simmons of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The weather was hot and dry. The status of the Elk Creek Mine is “active” however no coal is being mined and the only activity since the last inspection was site maintenance.

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

At the Bear Creek Methane Destruction Facility 3 of the 4 burners continued to operate.

Work had begun in the Hubbard Creek drainage, on a parcel of Phase III released land, to set up the “Elk Creek West” methane destruction facility. Two concrete pads had been constructed ready to relocate two of the burners from the Bear Creek facility. (This facility is within the permit area, but not regulated by DRMS).

**OTHER (SPECIFY):**

Oxbow continued to field interest from various entities for the use of land or facilities within the permit area, but no deals had been finalized at the time of the inspection.

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15**

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Weeds had been treated around the facilities area.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED**

N/A

**OTHER (SPECIFY)**

N/A

**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



*Figure 1: Concrete pads for "Elk Creek West" methane destruction facility in Hubbard Creek drainage*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 0