



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

C-1981-035 July Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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Thu, Aug 8, 2024 at 11:01 AM

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 Morning All,

Please find the attached inspection report from our visit last week. Everything looked great and no maintenance items were identified. 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 July 2024 Partial Inspection Report.pdf


3398K



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: July 30, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 13:45 Inspection End Date: July 30, 2024 Inspection End Time: 15:20	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: 8/8/2024

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	N - Revegetation
R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste	N - Subsidence
N - Explosives	N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Fish & Wildlife	N - Support Facilities On-site
R - Hydrologic Balance	N - Signs and Markers
N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan	N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Other	N - Special Categories Of Mining
N - Processing Waste	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 distribution of waste material on the Lower Refuse Pile was taking place. The weather was clear and dry. Twelve 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.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

The main focus of this inspection was to observe the progress of refuse placement on the slope of the Lower Refuse Pile (LRP) at the King I Facility. In the time since the Division's previous inspection, the front slope of the LRP has been built up with material from the stockpile on the pad area. The slope is in good condition and appeared to be stable at the time of the inspection. Final grade has almost been achieved, and the temporary access road to the toe of the slope has been filled in according to the plan. Examples of the front slope can be seen in Photos One and Two. No evidence of settling or erosion was noted, and on-site discussions with the Operator indicate they have compacted each lift, and upon final completion will use a dozer to cut the slope back to its design configuration. At the time of the inspection, a front-end loader was being used to reestablish the safety berm at the shoulder of the slope. The sloping was achieved by using the stockpiled refuse material, however not all the material was used. A small stockpile of waste material was present on the pad and appeared stable at the time. A portion of the material will be used to finish the slope, and the remainder of the material will be trammed up to the Upper Refuse Pile (URP) for final placement. The small stockpile of material can be seen in Photo Three. The overall configuration of the LRP is good, and the placement efforts appear to be in accordance with the approved plan.

The URP was also observed to be in similar condition as it was during the previous inspection. The focus of operations has been on the LRP, so no material placement has taken place on the URP. The stockpile of waste

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material near the top of the pad was observed and in good condition. No evidence of erosion or material transport was noted. The stockpile can be seen in Photo Four. The pad is also in good condition, appears to be properly compacted and exhibits positive drainage. The pad can be seen in Photo Five. During the Division's previous inspection, some small erosional features were noted near the Southwest shoulder of the URP and the Operator was advised to monitor the features. The Operator elected to go ahead and grade them out and repair the area, and no new erosion was noted. The repairs are in excellent condition and can be seen in Photo Six.

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:

In addition to focusing on the material placement of refuse on the LRP, the drainage structures in and around the LRP were a primary focus of this inspection. Along the Northeast side of the LRP, the drainage structures have been properly established. Reach 13 has been extended along the toe of the slope, terminating in the sump located near the bath house. The extended reach is in good condition, free from obstruction and able to function as designed. On site discussions with the Operator indicate that when slopes are completed to design specifications, Reach 13 will be permanently established to provide the design drainage system. The temporary drainage can be seen in Photo Seven. All other sections of Reach 13 were also observed to be in good condition and able to function as designed. Along the South and West sides of the LRP, Reach 10 was observed to be in good condition. The temporary crossing on to the LRP has been established to allow for equipment access, but the ditches remain in good condition. The crossing can be seen in Photo Eight. The section of Reach 10 that parallels the access road was noted to be in excellent condition. The armoring and rock check dams appear to be functioning as designed, and no evidence erosion was noted. Photo Nine shows the armored section of Reach 10.

Old Barn Area

Recently, the area has seen significant localized rain events. The result of one such event caused significant flows and sedimentation to impact the sediment control structure at the Old Barn Area. Evidence of high flow and sedimentation was observed, that overwhelmed the structure, topping the silt fence and spreading across the road. In the time since the rain event, the operator has repaired the sediment control structure and re-installed the silt fence on the downstream side. All material that made its way to the road has been cleaned up and removed. The sediment control structure, silt fence and road can be seen in Photos Ten through Twelve. The Operator has done an exemplary job of conducting the repairs and this is not considered a problem at this time.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

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Photo Three: View East, showing the remaining refuse stockpile on the pad of the LRP. The stockpile appeared stable at the time of the inspection.



Photo Four: View East, showing the refuse stockpile on the Upper Refuse Pile.

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Photo Five: View East, showing another view of the stockpile as well as the pad of the Upper Refuse Pile. The pad is well compacted and in good condition.



Photo Six: View South, showing the repaired erosional features at the Southwest corner of the URP.

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Photo Nine: View North, showing the armored section of Reach 10 that parallels the Access Road. The ditch is in excellent condition and no erosion was noted.



Photo Ten: View Northwest, showing the recently cleaned sediment control structure at the Old Barn Area.

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