

STATE OF  
COLORADO

Wein - DNR, Clayton &lt;clayton.wein@state.co.us&gt;

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**Deserado Mine, C-1981-018, 1st Quarter 2024 Coal Waste Bank Report Review**

1 message

**Wein - DNR, Clayton** <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 12, 2024 at 10:11 AM

To: Kurt Blunt &lt;kblunt@deserado.com&gt;

Good morning Kurt,

Attached is the Division's review letter for the 1st Quarter Coal Waste Bank Report for the Deserado Mine. Please note the adequacy questions in bold text within the report. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

**Clayton Wein****Environmental Protection Specialist****COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
Mining and Safety  
Department of Natural Resources

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**Deserado Mine, C-1981-018, 1st Quarter Coal Waste Bank Report Review Letter.pdf**

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

August 12, 2024

Kurt Blunt  
Blue Mountain Energy, Inc.  
3607 County Rd. 65  
Rangely, CO 81648

**RE: Deserado Mine, Permit No. C-1981-018**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks**

Dear Kurt,

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (the Division) has reviewed the Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024. The Division finds the report to be in compliance with the following Rules and **has the following adequacy comments and questions:**

**4.10.2(1)** – The coal waste banks were inspected, on behalf of the person conducting surface coal mining operations, by a qualified registered engineer.

**4.10.2(2)(a)** – The inspection was conducted quarterly as required by the Division.

**4.10.2(2)(b)** – The inspection included observations necessary to evaluate the potential hazard to human life and property, to ensure that all organic material and topsoil have been removed and that proper construction and maintenance are occurring in accordance with the plan submitted under Rule 2.05.3(8) and approved by the Division.

**4.10.2(2)(c)** – The engineer considered the steepness of the slopes, seepage, and other visual factors which would indicate potential failure, and the results of failure with respect to the threat to human life and property.

**4.10.2(2)(d)** – Copies of the inspection findings are maintained at the mine site.

**4.10.2(3)** – There were no potential hazards identified in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Professional Certification for the Coal Processing Waste Banks.

Refuse material was hauled and placed at the RP-A refuse pile during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. There were no indications of seepage or any indications of slope failure. The slopes of



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1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Coal Waste Bank Report Review

the piles are stable and only some localized erosion has occurred. The surface drainage facilities are properly conveying surface runoff from the refuse bank areas.

**Adequacy Questions:**

1. The Quarterly Coal Waste Bank Report mentions that the topsoil and subsoil piles for sub areas 1, 2/3/4 and 5A have been seeded and are stable. **Please provide the Division with information regarding the topsoil and subsoil piles for the refuse area RP-A.**
2. **The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report does not discuss if compaction tests were performed. Please include in future quarterly reports a short discussion of whether or not compaction tests were performed during the quarter.**

This concludes the Division's review of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2024 Professional Certification of the Coal Processing Waste Banks for the Deserado Mine. If you have any questions, please contact me at (720)-762-6156 or [clayton.wein@state.co.us](mailto:clayton.wein@state.co.us).

Sincerely,



Clayton Wein  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
[clayton.wein@state.co.us](mailto:clayton.wein@state.co.us)

cc: Travis Marshall, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist GJFO