



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Bowie #1 inspection report

1 message

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Fri, Sep 20, 2024 at 9:44 AM

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

Hello, All -

Please see the attached report.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Regulatory Program



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

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INSP-REPORTC_C1981038_RDZ_09202024.pdf


2125K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-038 Mine Name: Bowie No. 1 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Basil R Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: B. Bear, R. Wilson, A. Etter
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 17, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 17:00 Inspection End Date: September 18, 2024 Inspection End Time: 09:00		Inspection Type: Coal Complete 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): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 9/20/2024

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

Y - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

Y - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

R - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on September 17 and 18, 2024. Basil Bear, Ryan Wilson, and Art Etter, representing Bowie Resources LLC (BRL), were present at the loadout portion of the inspection on September 18th.

No mining or reclamation activities were being conducted at this site, but pending reclamation at the loadout was discussed with BRL. The Farmers Ditch is conveyed under the loadout through a 600-foot culvert, and a planned project (outlined in TR-66) entails the removal of 300 feet of the culvert and construction of a new channel for this segment of the ditch. The discussion on September 18th included the need for an additional minor revision, to be submitted in September 2024, that will better define control of runoff from the areas to the southwest of the pond, including the silo and shop areas. Structure to control this runoff will include sedimentation basins, berms, and other structures, as appropriate.

No cattle were seen at the West Mine. (Cattle have been seen there in the past.)

The weather was warm and clear. The ground was muddy in some areas from recent rains.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were found to be well organized and complete. Please see the list of records included in this report.

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 ponds at the loadout, the Coal Storage Area (near Black Bridge Road), and the West Mine contained no water, and no problems were identified with these ponds.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

No problems were identified with culverts, including the large culvert under the loadout and the large culvert under the West Mine.

On the west end of the loadout, a low area does not appear to drain to a pond, and this area should be designated an SAE in a future technical revision.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No erosion was seen at the West Mine, including the reclaimed road. The vegetation cover was good.

No problems were identified with the reclamation in the area of Ponds 1, 2, 3, and 4 (East Mine). The stream where Ponds 1 and 2 have been reclaimed should be monitored for erosion and check structures added, if needed.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

At the West Mine, it appeared that thistle has been sprayed by BRL staff near the ponds, although some remains near the road. No yellow star thistle was seen in the area where it was observed in the past.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

No issues with signs or markers were identified during the inspection.

OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

No erosion or other problems were seen with the Coal Storage Area beside the intersection of Highway 133 and Black Bridge Road.

No erosion was seen at the loadout, including the steep slope between the loadout and the orchard below. The trestle across the river appears stable.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none

OTHER (SPECIFY) - none

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



West Mine ponds



West Mine reclaimed road, looking downhill

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West Mine – upstream end of large culvert under ponds



East Mine – drainage at reclaimed Pond 1

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



Drainage near reclaimed Ponds 3 and 4



Coal Storage near highway

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Loadout - road below shop and silo area



Ditch along south end of loadout where a sediment basin may be constructed

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS		HYDROLOGIC RECORDS	
DRMS Permit	Expires 4/20/2028	NPDES Permit	CO-0049045 Exp. 2025
Permit Application w/Revisions	On shelf	NPDES Records (DMRs)	Thru August 2024
Findings Document	RN8 findings 7/27/2023	Stormwater Management Plan	Aug. 2018
Insurance Certificate	Exp.5/1/2025	SPCC Plan	No longer valid
Bond Document	SEE COMMENT 1	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release	SL9 findings		NA
Documents/Findings	12/7/2023	State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Air Emission Permits	NA	Quarterly Pond Inspections	Thru 2Q 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA	Annual Hydrology Reports	2023
UG Mining Landowner Notification	1993 and 1994	• Ground Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	2023 AHR
Rill & Gully Survey	February 2023	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data		• Mine Inflow Study	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	2.06.1(3) Steep Slope	• Water Consumption Records	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2023	Well Permits	NA
Midterm Review Documents	MT8 10/13/2020		
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru		
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	August 2024	BLASTING RECORDS	NA
Transfers/Succession of Operator	7/29/2009		
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA		
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2		
CERTIFICATIONS			
Pond Certifications	W-1 and W-2 (2002)	ADDITIONAL RECORDS	
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA	CDOT Access Permit	Permit #399055 (June 1999)
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Yes 2/4/1987	Annual Subsidence Report	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	Yes, several years		
Access Road Certifications	Yes, PAP Vol. 8A		

COMMENTS:

1. Two instruments with Lexon Insurance Co.: \$2,500,000 + \$268,916 = \$2,768,916.

2. The cost estimate of \$1,639,674 (from MT8) does not match liability. This is explained in SL-06 findings.

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