STATE OF COLORADO

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

McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, September Complete Inspection Report

1 message

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us> Wed, Oct 2, 2024 at 1:23 PM
To: joe <joe@ridgerunnergeo.com>, Chuck Silengo <csilengo@bresnan.net>
Cc: DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good afternoon Joe and Chuck,

Attached is the Division's inspection report for the September 2024 complete inspection of the McClane Canyon Mine. Please note ther maintenance item highlighted in bold text within the report. Please continue sediment cleaning operations at the site as conditions allow. When the maintenance item is completed, please submit a photo of the completed item to the Division. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Clayton Wein
Environmental Protection Specialist

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

P 720.762.6156 | F 303.832.8106
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203
clayton.wein@state.co.us | https://www.drms.colorado.gov

McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, September Complete Inspection Report.pdf
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COLORADO
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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1980-004 **Mine Name:** McClane Canyon Mine **Operator:** ARC McClane Canyon, LLC **Operator Address:** Joe Brinton 652 Peony Dr Grand Junction, CO 81507	**County:** Garfield **Operation Type:** Underground **Permit Status:** Temporary Cessation **Ownership:** Private
	Operator Representative Present: Chuck Silengo
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: September 19, 2024 **Inspection Start Time:** 09:35 **Inspection End Date:** September 19, 2024 **Inspection End Time:** 11:05	**Inspection Type:** Coal Complete Inspection **Inspection Reason:** Normal I&E Program **Weather:** Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	**Joint Inspection Contacts:** None
Post Inspection Agency: None	**Post Inspection Contacts:** None

Inspector(s): Clayton Wein	**Inspector's Signature:** Clayton Wein	**Signature Date:** 10/2/2024

1313 Sherman St. Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-3567

Inspection Topic Summary
NOTE: **Y**=Inspected **N**=Not Inspected **R**=Comments Noted **V**=Violation Issued **NA**=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection
R - Availability of Records
N - Backfill & Grading
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste
N - Explosives
R - Fish & Wildlife
R - Hydrologic Balance
R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
N - Other
N - Processing Waste
R - Roads
N - Reclamation Success
N - Revegetation
N - Subsidence
N - Slides and Other Damage
N - Support Facilities On-site
R - Signs and Markers
N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Special Categories Of Mining
R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This report documents the Division's observations taken during a complete inspection of the McClane Canyon Mine, Permit No. C-1980-004. The inspection was conducted on September 19, 2024 by Clayton Wein of the Division. ARC McClane Canyon, LLC. (AMC) was represented during the inspection by Chuck Silengo. The weather was clear with a temperature of 68° F. The ground conditions were dry.

One maintenance item was identified during the inspection:

A loader was observed parked on the mine portals bench by the shop. The loader did not have a catch pan placed beneath it. Please place a catch pan beneath the loader.

Ongoing maintenance started prior to the inspection:

1. The D-2 Ditch was in the process of being cleaned.

2. Cleaning operations will continue at the sediment pond as conditions will allow.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records are located at the Mesa County Recorder's office on 200 Spruce Street in Grand Junction, CO. The records are accessed via a computer with access to the Division's Laserfiche Database. The instruction sheet is available from the employees of the Recorder's Office. The records for the McClane Canyon Mine were up to date. Please see the Availability of Records Form attached to the end of this report for more details.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

During the inspection, a couple of rabbits were seen around the office pad. Deer tracks were also observed on the eastern side of the sediment pond.

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;

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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:

During the month of August, the permit area received several large monsoon storms with large amounts of Precipitation. Conversations with Mr. Silengo indicated one storm had just under 2 inches of rain and storm soon after that one rained approximately another inch. Sediment transported through and deposited in the mine's sediment control features was well above average. The sediment control features at the mine are generally cleaned once annually. These storm events required maintenance and cleaning of the sediment control features after every event. Below are the Division's observations of the sediment control features during the September 19 inspection

Two sumps are located on the western side of the mine office pad. One sump is located on the north side of the haul road not too far from the bridge over East Salt Creek (Photo 1). The sump was dry and recently had been cleaned. The silt fence at the sump's discharge outlet was clean and stable. There were no observed sings of offsite impacts. The second sump is located on the south side of the haul road at the corner of the haul road and the mine office pad (Photo 2. The sump was muddy and stable. The silt fence at the sump's outlet was in good repair and clean. The operator had recently cleaned the sump. There were no indications of off-site impacts.

Sump P is located on the north side of the Haul Road in-between the Mine office pad and the sediment pond. The sump was clean and stable. The silt fence was in good repair. No off site impacts were noted.

The Sediment pond is located to the east of Sump P on the south side of the haul road. The pond was holding water during the inspection (Photo 3). There was no discharge through the primary discharge outlet. Due to recent precipitation events, the sediment level in the pond had reached maximum capacity. Discussions with the operator's representatives, Chuck Silengo and Joe Brinton, and the Division during the inspection and the day after the inspection occurred about the urgency to clean the sediment pond. The operator's representatives started cleaning operations on the pond would start right after the discussions. The operator will use a front end loader to remove as much sediment as possible from the pond as the conditions in the pond allow. As material is removed, the bottom of the pond becomes muddy and soft. Equipment must wait for the material to dry before more cleaning operations can occur, or they risk getting the loader stuck. The operator will continue this method until the sediment pond has be restored to the designed capacity. Due to the recent large scale precipitation events, water impounded in the pond had reached the level of the primary and emergency spillways. Evidence of flow through both spillways was observed during the inspection. At the time of the inspection the primary discharge outlet and the emergency spillway were observed to be unobstructed.

Sump Q is located on the north side of the haul road, across from the sediment pond (Photo 4). The sump had recently been cleaned. The sump was not holding any water during the inspection. The culvert outlet for Sump Q was unobstructed. The sump was stable with no indications of erosional features.

Sump J is located on the south side of the haul road and east of the sediment pond. The sump had recently been cleaned (Photo 5). No water was impounded in the sump during the inspection. The sump was stable with no erosional concerns. The outlet for the sump is a surface discharge into the D-6 Ditch. The D-6 ditch was stable and observed to be unobstructed. The D-6 ditch terminates into the sediment pond. The junction between the D-6 Ditch and the sediment pond was clear of debris.

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The remaining portion of the D-6 Ditch along with the D-4 ditch parallel the haul road east to the base of the portals facilities area. Both Ditches were clear of blockages and were stable. There were no erosional features identified.

Sump I is located on the north side of the haul road at the western end of the portals facilities area. Sump I was dry and stable. The sump had been recently cleaned. The Culvert outlet for the sump was unobstructed. There were no erosional features observed.

Sumps A, B, D and E collect runoff from undisturbed upstream drainages from the portals facilities area. The runoff is then piped underneath the portals facilities pad and directed to Upper McClane Creek. Culvert D-5 serves the same purpose.

Sump A is located on the northwestern side of the portals facilities area. The sump was dry and stable. The outlet for the sump was clear of debris (Photo 6). Sump A had also been cleaned recently. There were no indications of erosion.

Sump B is located on the northeastern side of the portals facilities area. Sump B was dry and had been cleaned since the previous Division inspection (Photo 7). The trash rack covering the discharge outlet was clear of blockages. No erosional features were observed.

Sump D is located on the eastern portion of the portals facilities area. The sump was dry during the inspection. Sump D had been cleaned since the previous Division inspection. The sump was stable and the outlet was clear of blockages.

Sump E is located on the southeast side of the portals facilities area. The sump was clean and stable. The inlet to the discharge culvert was clear of debris. No erosional concerns were identified.

The culvert for D-5 is located on the southern side of the portals facilities area. The culvert was stable and in good condition (Photo 8. No erosional features were observed.

The D-2 Ditch extends on the south side of the portals facilities area and goes behind the shop to connect to the D-3 Ditch. The ditch had been partially cleaned at the time of the inspection. Mr. Silengo was waiting for the ditch to dry out more before continuing the cleaning process. The remaining work to clean the ditch will be completed as soon as ground conditions allow. The open culvert extends down the hillside connecting the D-2 Ditch to the D-3 Ditch. The Culvert was unobstructed and stable.

The D-3 Ditch is located along the southwest side of the portals facilities pad. The ditch was clear of debris and stable (Photo 9). No erosional concerns were identified.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The Division received a Technical Revision (TR-22) the day of the inspection. The purpose of the revision is to update the site with an enlarged sediment storage pile. The new pile design will allow for future storage of material cleaned from the McClane Canyon Mine's sediment control features. The revision is necessary due to the higher amounts of sediment deposition within the sediment control features as a result of the burn scar to the east

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of the mine and higher than average precipitation events. The current area used for sediment drying is the coal waste pile. The pile has reached the maximum capacity for the volume of material that it can hold.

During the inspection the coal waste pile was stable with no erosional concerns identified. The clear water diversion ditch located on the north side of the pile was stable and clear of obstructions (Photo 10). The drainage from the coal waste pile is routed to the sediment pond.

The mine office pad was stable with no erosional concerns. The equipment stored on the pad had catch pans placed beneath them (Photo 11). All liquids were stored in a secondary containment structure (Photo 12). The berm for the pad was vegetated and stable. No off-site impacts were observed. Materials stored on the pad were well kept and organized.

A loader was parked on the mine portals bench by the shop. The loader was observed to not have a catch pan placed beneath it. Please place a catch pan beneath the loader.

ROADS – Rule 4.03
Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

The haul road for the mine extends from the portals facilities area to the entrance of the mine site. The haul road was stable with no erosional concerns. The haul road ditches have been operating as designed to transport runoff to the proper sumps.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The mine identification Signs were displayed on the entrance gate over East Salt Creek. The mine id signs displayed the current contact information for the permittee and the Division. The mine permit number was also displayed. The signs were in good condition and located in a location that was unobstructed.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06
Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

The topsoil pile is located to the southwest of the sediment pond. The pile was observed to be stable with vegetative cover (Photo 13). There were no erosional features noted. The topsoil pile marker was in place on top of the pile. The perimeter ditch was stable with no obstructions identified. There was no loss of topsoil resource observed.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED: None

OTHER (SPECIFY): None

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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: The north office pad sump.

Photo 2: The south office pad sump.

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Photo 3: The full sediment pond.

Photo 4: Sump Q.

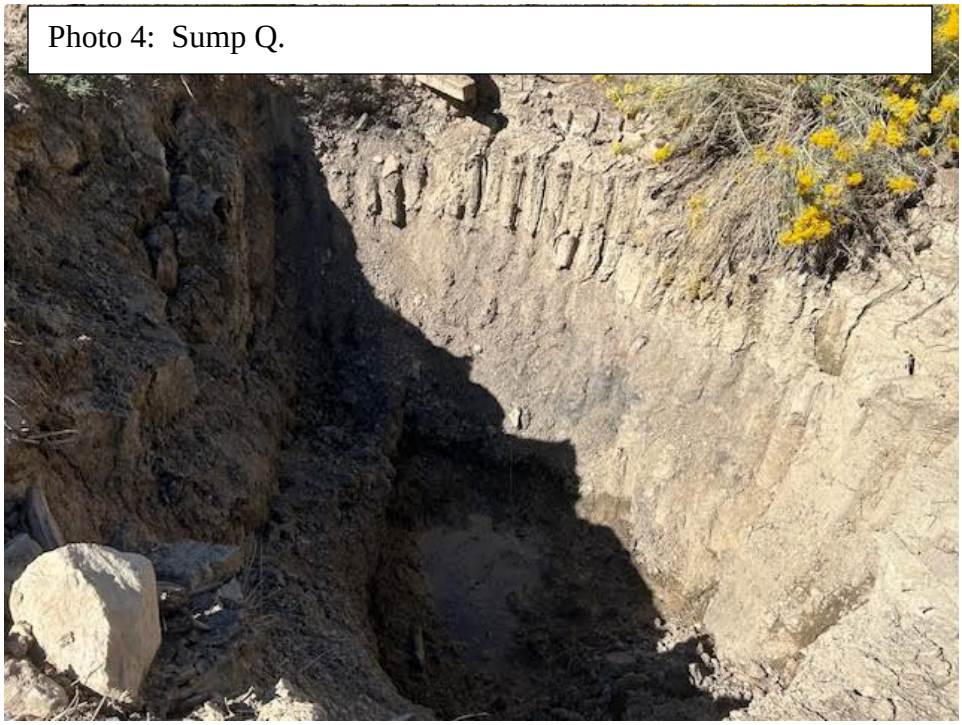

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Photo 5: Sump J.

Photo 6: Sump A outlet.

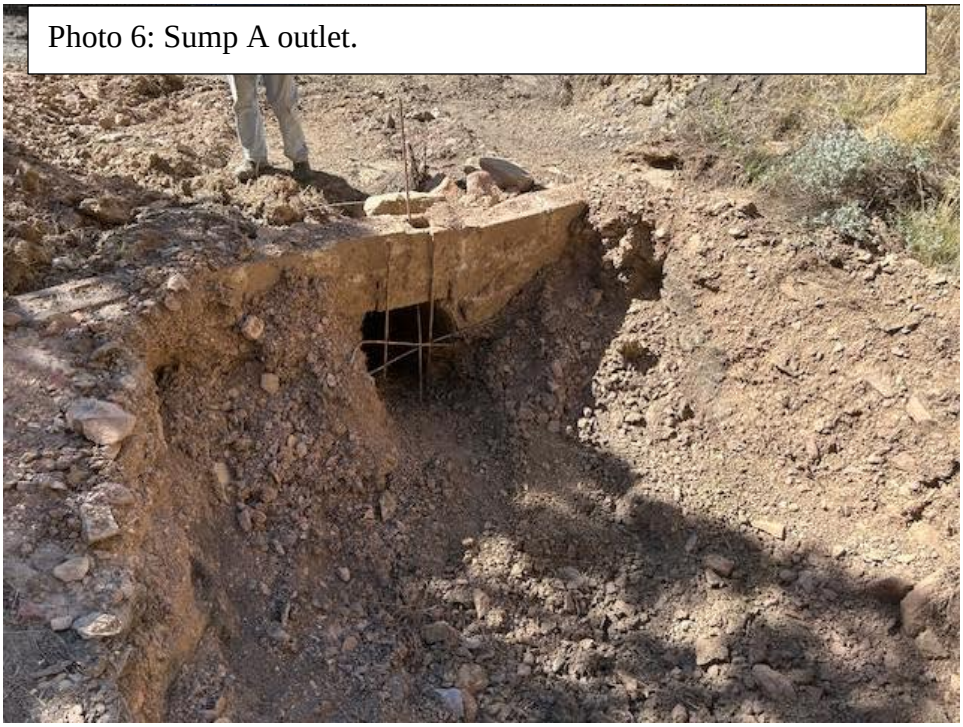

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Photo 7: Sump B.

Photo 8: the D-5 Culvert.

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Photo 9: The D-3 Ditch

Photo 11: The clear water Diversion ditch on the north side of the coal waste pile.

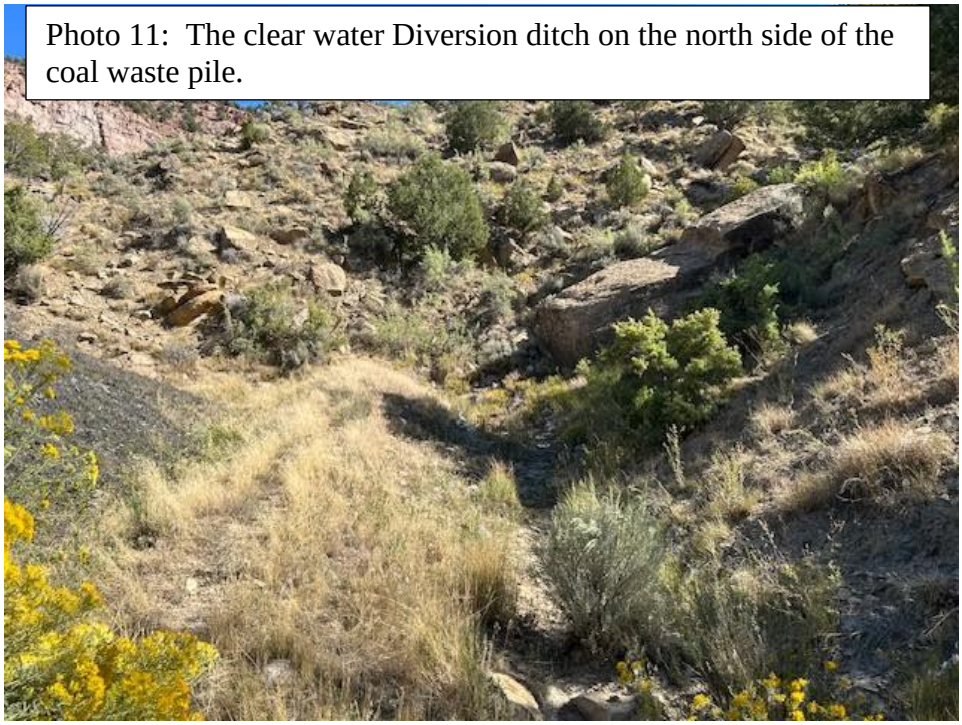

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Photo 12: The loader parked on the mine office pad with catch pan underneath.

Photo 13: The secondary containment structure on the mine office pad.

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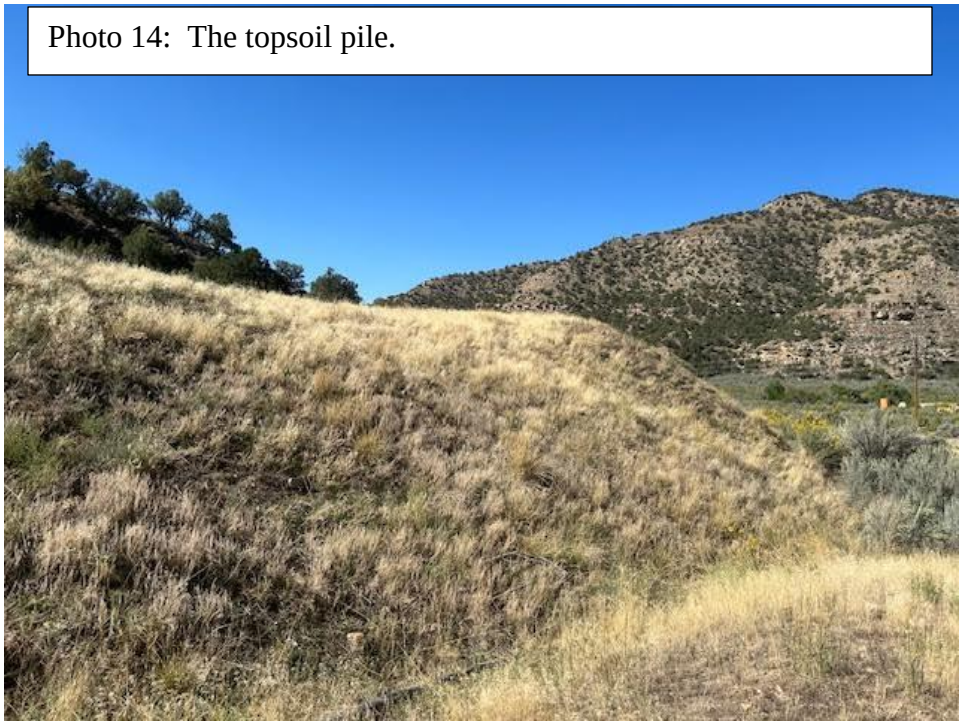
Photo 14: The topsoil pile.



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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS		HYDROLOGIC RECORDS	
DRMS Permit	RN-09	NPDES Permit	CO-0038242 COR-040098
Permit Application w/Revisions	Laserfiche	**NPDES Records**	Up to August of 2024
Findings Document	RN-09	Stormwater Management Plan	2016
Insurance Certificate	June 2025	SPCC Plan	2013
Bond Document	RN-09	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	NA	State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Air Emission Permits	Exp.	Quarterly Pond Inspections	Up to 2nd Q 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA	Annual Hydrology Reports	2023 AHR
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA	• Ground Water Monitoring	AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	AHR
Rill & Gully Survey	NA	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	AHR
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2023 ARR	• Mine Inflow Study	AHR
Specific Variance Approvals	PAP/OK	• Water Consumption Records	AHR
Annual Reclamation Reports	2023 ARR	Well Permits	OK
Midterm Review Documents	MT-08		
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	2nd Q 2024	**BLASTING RECORDS**	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	SO-4	Blasting Publication	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	2011	Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	RN-09 RCE	ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
CERTIFICATIONS		Blasting Variances	PAP
Pond Certifications	OK	Pre-Blast Surveys	PAP
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	2023		
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA	**ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)**	
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	NA		
Access Road Certifications	NA		

COMMENTS:

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