



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Reilley - DNR, Robin <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

## Inspections: 2024 September Partial

1 message

**Reilley - DNR, Robin** <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Tue, Sep 24, 2024 at 11:55 AM

To: "Kawcak, Miranda" <MKawcak@peabodyenergy.com>, "Howard, Michael" <MHoward@peabodyenergy.com>, Robin Reilley - DNR <robin.reilley@state.co.us>

Good Morning Ms. Kawcak,

Please find DRMS's 2024 September inspection reports for the Williams Fork, Yoast and Seneca IIW sites. These were partial inspections.

Thank you

Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP  
Environmental Protection Specialist II



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

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### 3 attachments



**Ins\_Partial\_Yoast\_2024\_09Sept.pdf**  
2363K



**Ins\_Partial\_Seneca\_\_2024\_09Sept.pdf**  
1250K



**Insp\_Partial\_WilliamsFork\_2024\_09Sept.pdf**  
3075K




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**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1994-082 <b>Mine Name:</b> Yoast Mine  <b>Operator Address:</b> Seneca Property LLC Ms. Michael Howard 29515 Routt County Road No. 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private  <b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Michael Howard
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b> This report was issued electronically from the Divisions' Denver Office.	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> 23 Sept. 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 3:40 p.m. <b>Inspection End Date:</b> 23 Sept. 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Partly Cloudy
<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>  Robin Reilley, M.S. GISP	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  24 September 2024

<b>Inspection Topic Summary</b>	
NOTE: Y=Inspected N=Not Inspected R=Comments Noted V=Violation Issued NA=Not Applicable	
<b>R</b> - Air Resource Protection <b>N</b> - Availability of Records <b>NA</b> - Backfill & Grading <b>NA</b> - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste <b>NA</b> - Explosives <b>R</b> - Fish & Wildlife <b>R</b> - Hydrologic Balance <b>R</b> - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan <b>NA</b> - Other <b>NA</b> - Processing Waste	<b>R</b> - Roads <b>R</b> - Reclamation Success <b>R</b> - Revegetation <b>R</b> - Subsidence <b>R</b> - Slides and Other Damage <b>NA</b> - Support Facilities on site <b>N</b> - Signs and Markers <b>NA</b> - Support Facilities Not on site <b>NA</b> - Special Categories Of Mining <b>NA</b> - Topsoil

### COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the Yoast Mine, C1994082, operated by Seneca Property LLC. The inspection was conducted, and the report prepared by me, Robin Reilley of the DRMS. Michael Howard, Seneca Properties Inc. representative was present throughout the inspection. No hydrologic or air quality issues were detected at the time of inspection. The weather was partly cloudy, with slight breeze and temperatures hovering around 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### *MAINTENANCE ITEMS*

1. *Decant structures at ponds 10 and 14 require repairs. Repairs are slated for the second week of October.*

#### *MAINTENANCE ITEMS*

1. *Cattails at Ponds 10 and 12 flume entrances and along upstream portion of flow have been removed.*

#### *INSPECTION:*

##### *GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:*

Reclamation has been completed at the site with the exception of the hillside above Pond 12 and ponds 12, 13 and 14. These areas comprise approximately 120 acres of Phase I and II reclamation slated for full phase III release this fall.

##### *ROADS Rule 4.03*

*Construction 4.03.1(3), 4.03.2(3); Drainage 4.03.1(4), 4.03.2(4); Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6); 4.03.2(5) and; Reclamation 4.03.1(7) I 4.03.2(7).*

- Roads appeared stable and in good condition.
- No fugitive dust was noted.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

*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; Drainage-Acid and Toxic Materials 4.05.8; Impoundments 4.05.6, 4.05.9; Stream Buffer Zones 4.05.18*

Pond banks appeared stable and well vegetated. Dams appeared stable and well vegetated with no signs of seepage. Pond emergency spillways appeared to be functioning adequately. Decant structures are aging and require updating. All ponds held water at the time of inspection.

- Pond 12 was discharging clear water at the time of inspection. The staff gauge read approximately 0.05 feet.
- Pond 13 held water and algal mats were present along the south and west banks. The pond was not discharging at the time of inspection.
- Pond 13 had been cleared of vegetation.
- Springs above Ponds 12 and 13 were dry at the time of inspection.
- Pond 14 held water at the time of inspection and was discharging. The discharge was not reaching the flume.
- Pond 10 was discharging at the time of inspection and the flume and drainageway from the outlet structure has been cleared of vegetation.

*SLIDES and OTHER DAMAGE- Rule 4.12*

- No areas of new instability, slumping or sliding were noted above the ponds at the time of inspection.
- Known slumps and springs above ponds 12 and 13 appeared dry and exhibited no new activity.

*REVEGETATION - Rule 4.15*

*General Requirements 4.15.1; Use of Species 4.15.2, Grazing 4.15.5*

- Revegetated areas of reclamation appear stable with good cover and an adequate species diversity consisting of shrubs and grasses. The native perennials have gone dormant at this time of year.
- Vegetation had gone dormant for the most part.
- Tree plantings at Pond 12 appeared vigorous and healthy and was beginning to change color.

*FISH and WILDLIFE– RULE 4.18*

Wildlife sightings included red and white tailed hawks and waterfowl on the ponds.

*INSPECTION, ENFORCEMENT and CIVIL PENALTIES – RULE 5*

*Inspections 5.02; Availability of Records*

Records were not inspected as this was a partial inspection.

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

*DOCUMENTS RECEIVED*

None

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



**PHOTOGRAPHS**



***Photo 1: Pond 12 flume, cleared of vegetation.***



***Photo 2: Pond 12 looking toward the highwall.***

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





*Photo 3: Pond 13 not discharging at the time of inspection.*



*Photo 4: Pond 14 with its flume practically grounded due to low water.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1





*Photo 5: Pond 10 discharge culvert and flume cleared of vegetation.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1



***Photo 6:** Pond 10 looking south.*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 2

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1