



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Simmons - DNR, Leigh <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>

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## C1981022, Elk Creek Mine, November Inspection Report

1 message

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**Simmons - DNR, Leigh** <leigh.simmons@state.co.us>  
To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 6:29 PM

Attached

Leigh Simmons  
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981022\_LDS\_11182024041557.pdf**  
1314K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-022 <b>Mine Name:</b> Elk Creek Mine <b>Operator:</b> Oxbow Mining, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr Doug Smith 3737 Hwy 133 P. O. Box 535 Somerset, CO 81434	<b>County:</b> Delta, Gunnison <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Doug Smith
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> November 14, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> <b>Inspection End Time:</b>	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear
<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>  Leigh Simmons	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  November 18, 2024

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection  
N - Availability of Records  
N - Backfill & Grading  
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste  
N - Explosives  
N - Fish & Wildlife  
N - Hydrologic Balance  
R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan  
R - Other  
N - Processing Waste

N - 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  
N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection by Leigh Simmons of the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division). The weather was clear and dry. The status of the Elk Creek Mine is “active” however no coal is being mined and the only activity since the last inspection was site maintenance.

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

Work was continuing steadily to remove unused equipment from the facilities area. The sub-station on the upper pad had been partially dismantled. A transformer on the lower pad had been sold, but not yet removed.

**OTHER (SPECIFY):**

Oxbow had continued to work on the methane destruction facility at the Hubbard Creek, but the facility was not yet complete.

Workers with the railroad company were working on the wooden trestle over Bear Creek, blocking access up Bear Creek road.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

All necessary signs were in place around the site.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED**

N/A

**OTHER (SPECIFY)**

N/A

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2



## PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Upper pad (1)



Figure 2: Upper pad (2)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2





*Figure 3: Upper pad (3)*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2