



STATE OF
COLORADO

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us>

C-1981-008 New Horizon November Partial Inspection Report

1 message

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us>

Tue, Nov 19, 2024 at 2:34 PM

To: "Tennyson, Tony (Colowyo)" <ttennyson@tristategt.org>, Clayton Wein - DNR <clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR
DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon Tony,

Attached below is my Inspection Report for New Horizon's November Partial. Everything looked great and no maintenance items were noted. Let me know if you have any questions, Thanks!

Lucas

Lucas West

Environmental Protection Specialist

Minerals Program, Grand Junction Field Office



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

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C-1981-008 Nov 2024 Partial Inspection Report.pdf


1834K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-008 Mine Name: New Horizon Mine Operator: Elk Ridge Mining and Reclamation, LLC Operator Address: Mr Tony Tennyson P.O. Box 628 27646 West 5th Avenue Nucla, CO 81424	County: Montrose Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: November 12, 2024 Inspection Start Time: 10:00 Inspection End Date: November 12, 2024 Inspection End Time: 10:24	Inspection Type: Coal Partial 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): Lucas West	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 11/19/2024

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

R - Backfill & Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection conducted by Lucas West of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety's Active Mines Program. The site is in final reclamation however no reclamation activities were taking place at the time of the inspection. The weather was clear and dry. Contact was made with Mindy Sickles and Jason Carver, however they did not accompany the inspection. Ten Photos accompany this report to illustrate the observed site conditions.

The overall footprint of the site is in excellent condition. No maintenance items or problems were noted during this inspection.

BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14

Contemporaneous Reclamation 4.14.1; Approximate Original Contour 4.14.2; Highwall Elimination 4.14.1(2)(f); Steep Slopes 4.14.2, 4.27; Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials 4.14.3; Stabilization of Rills and Gullies 4.14.6:

The recently backfilled and graded area on both sides of the access road leading to Pond 013 North of BB road was observed to be in good condition. No evidence of settling or slumping was noted and no signs of erosion was observed. The area, seen in Photo One, is well vegetated and appeared stable during the inspection. The vegetative cover is mostly annual weeds; however reclamation species were noted.

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:

During this inspection Ponds 012, 013 and 016 were observed. Pond 012, shown in Photo Two, is in good condition and contained no standing water. The contributing ditch, an example of which can be seen in Photo Three, was also in good condition and appeared stable. The ditch shows no evidence of recent flows and appears to be able to function as designed.

Pond 013 is in similar condition to the Division's previous inspection. Visually, the water level appears to be the same as during previous inspections with water inflowing from the aeration structure. The pond can be seen in

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Photo Four with well vegetated banks, and the baffle curtains functioning as designed. The rock lined drop structure leading from the backfill area to Pond 013 is noted to be in excellent condition with no evidence of recent flow. The drop structure can be seen in Photo Five.

Pond 016, adjacent BB Road, remains dry with no evidence of recent water impoundment. The floor and banks of the pond are well vegetated and appeared stable at the time of the inspection. Pond 016 can be seen in Photo Six.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Also observed during this inspection were the topsoil stockpiles located adjacent to Pond 012, 016 and at the Morgan Property Topsoil storage area. The Mixed Topsoil stockpile adjacent to Pond 016 is in excellent condition, well vegetated with the ring berm functioning as designed. The stockpile, seen in Photo Seven, shows no signs of erosion or sediment transport.

Located adjacent to Pond 012 lies a topsoil and Bench One stockpile. Both stockpiles appeared to be stable during the inspection and showed no signs of erosion or sediment transport. The topsoil stockpile can be seen in Photo Eight.

All topsoil stockpiles located at the Morgan Property Topsoil storage area were observed to be in good condition. The stockpiles are in good condition, well vegetation and showed no signs of erosion or sediment transport. An example of the Lift A stockpile can be seen in Photo Nine.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo One: View Northeast showing the backfill area on the West Side of the access road leading to Pond 013. The backfill area appeared stable with no evidence of settling or slumping.

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Photo Four: View Northeast, showing Pond 013 with vegetated banks, baffle curtains and active aeration system. Also visible is the lower reach of the rock drop structure.

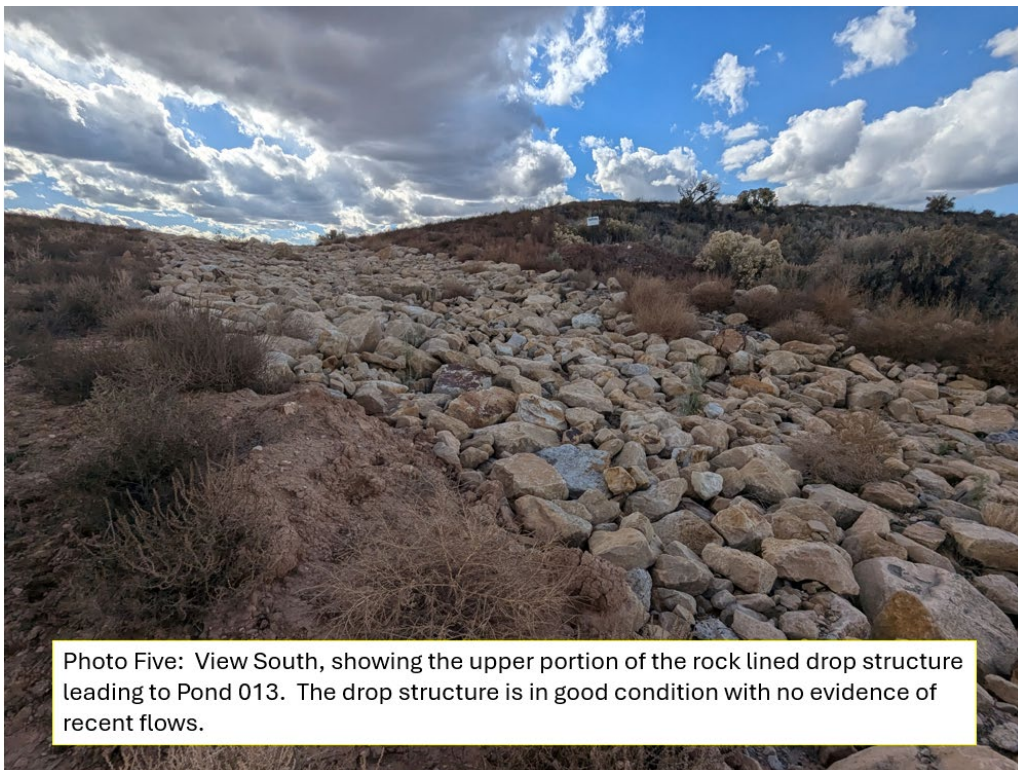


Photo Five: View South, showing the upper portion of the rock lined drop structure leading to Pond 013. The drop structure is in good condition with no evidence of recent flows.

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Photo Six: View North, showing Pond 016 with no standing water. The floor and slopes of the pond are well vegetated and appeared stable at the time of the inspection.



Photo Seven: View West, showing the Mixed Topsoil stockpile adjacent to Pond 016. The stockpile is in good condition and no sediment transport was noted.

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Photo Eight: View East, showing the topsoil stockpile located adjacent to Pond 012.



Photo Nine: View Southwest, showing the Lift A Topsoil stockpile located at the Morgan Property Storage Area. All stockpiles located in this area are in good condition.

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