STATE OF COLORADO

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

C-1981-035 King November Partial Inspection Report

1 message

West - DNR, Lucas <lucas.west@state.co.us> Wed, Nov 20, 2024 at 2:01 PM
To: McCourt Jordan <jmccourt@gcc.com>, Wymore Wade <wwymore@gcc.com>, Michael Dickson <michael@summitmining.co>, Clayton Wein - DNR <clayton.wein@state.co.us>, DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good Afternoon All,
Attached below is my Inspection Report from our Partial Inspection last week. The maintenance items we discussed are not cited in the report since you guys got them taken care of so fast, thanks for that. If you have any questions please let me know,
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-1981-035 Nov 2024 Inspection Report.pdf
1595K

COLORADO
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Department of Natural Resources

PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-035 **Mine Name:** King Coal Mine **Operator:** GCC Energy, LLC **Operator Address:** Mr Jordan McCourt 6473 County Road 120 Hesperus, CO 81326	**County:** La Plata **Operation Type:** Underground **Permit Status:** Active **Ownership:** Private
	Operator Representative Present: Wade Wymore
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: November 12, 2024 **Inspection Start Time:** 13:24 **Inspection End Date:** November 12, 2024 **Inspection End Time:** 14:58	**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:**  11/20/2024

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
N - Availability of Records
N - Backfill & Grading
R - 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 as part of the normal monitoring program for permitted sites. Wade Wymore of GCC accompanied the inspection and represented the Operator. Normal activies were takaing place at the mine during the inspection. At the King II area, the stackers were active and trucks were bineg loaded at the time of the inspection. At the King I facility no activity was being conducted at the time of the inspection. The weather was clear and dry. Seven Photos accompany this report to illustrate the current site conditions.

The overall footprint of the site is in good condition. Two maintenance items were identified during the inspection, however they were corrected in the days following the Inspection and photo documentation was provided to the Division, therefore they are not cited in this report.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09
Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

King I Facility

At the King I Facility both the Upper Refuse Pile (URP) and Lower Refuse Piles (LRP) were observed. At the time of the inspection no activity was taking place at either one of the Refuse Piles. The URP was observed to be in good condition and appeared stable at the time. The surface of the pile is well compacted and appears consistent with the design specifications. No evidence of settling or slumping was noted on the surface of the pile. At the East end of the pile, the stockpiled waste material awaiting compaction is in good condition and shows evidence of recent hauling and placement on the surface. The stockpile can be seen in Photo One and Surface of the pile can be seen in Photo Two. The LRP was also observed to be in good condition, well compacted and consistent with the design specifications. A lift of windrowed material has been placed on the surface for temporary storage. The surface of the pile can with stockpile and windrowed material can be seen in Photo Three. Both the surface and the stockpile are in good condition. Recent work has been focused on the outslopes of the pile, where the slope had been advanced and compacted. The face of the slope has been shaved back to reach design level but has not been confirmed with aerial topographic survey. Once the survey is completed, the Operator will assess if more material needs to be removed to reach the appropriate slope. In the interim the slope is in excellent condition and appeared stable at the time of the Inspection. No evidence of settling or erosion was noted along the slope, which can be seen in Photo Four.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3
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; 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:

King I Facility

At the King I Facility, the culverts and ditches that make up the internal drainage system between the LRP and the URP were observed. All ditches observed were free from obstruction and appeared able to function as designed. Along Reach 10, just below the shoulder of the URP, the ditch had recently suffered a minor blow out in response to a precipitation event. The flow had scoured the rock lining and bunched up the geotextile beneath the rocks. The flow did not compromise the ditch, nor any other feature in the area, but needed repair. The Operator has repaired the reach by re-aligning the geotextile and keying in more angular rocks to promote stability. The repair is in excellent condition and can be seen in Photo Five. The remaining ditches and culverts observed at the King I Facility appear to be operational.

Barn Area

At the Barn Area, the internal sediment control structures have required constant maintenance due to recent storm events. The Operator has kept up well with sediment trap cleanouts, and surface water control. One of the identified maintenance items that was identified, and quickly abated was the repair of a water bar across the access road just above the sediment basin. The photo documentation shows that was completed and is not considered a problem at this time.

King II Facility

At the King II Facility a portion of the internal drainage structures were observed. All observed structures, including ditches were free from obstruction and appeared able to function as designed. One check dam with sediment collection area, located adjacent to the number one stacker had become full of sediment, and was identified as a maintenance item. The Operator has supplied photo documentation of the catchment area, having been cleaned out immediately following the inspection, therefore it is not considered a problem at this time.

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

King I Facility

Three Topsoil Stockpiles are located at the King I Facility. One stockpile is located at the East end of the URP and Two others are located near the old bath house, below the LRP. All three stockpiles were observed, and found to be in good condition with dense and diverse vegetative cover for stability. An example of the three stockpiles can be seen in Photo Six. The stockpiles showed no signs of erosion or sediment transport at the time of the inspection.

King II Facility

Two Topsoil Stockpiles are located at the King II Facility. One stockpile is located along the access road, between the road and the main sediment pond, the other is located east of the Number 2 stacker, downstream of the processing area. Both stockpiles were also found to be in good condition and stabilized with a dense and diverse vegetative cover. No evidence of erosion nor state listed noxious weeds were identified on the piles. An example of the King II stockpiles can be seen in Photo Seven.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo One: View East, showing the stockpiled waste material on the Upper Refuse Pile at the King I Facility.

Photo Two: View Southwest showing the surface of the URP at King I, the surface is well compacted and in good condition.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

Photo Three: View East, showing the surface of the Lower Refuse Pile, windrowed waste material and stockpile. All elements are in good condition and appeared stable at the time of the inspection.

Photo Four: View West, showing the graded out-slopes of the LRP. The slopes will be surveyed to determine if further grading is required.

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Photo Five: View West showing the repaired section of Reach 10 just below the Upper Refuse Pile. The repaired area is in excellent condition and appears to be able to function as designed.

Photo Six: View West, showing an example of one of the topsoil stockpiles at the King I Facility. All stockpiles are well vegetated, and no evidence of erosion was noted.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3
Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1

Photo Seven: View North, showing an example of one of the well vegetated topsoil stockpiles at the King II Facility.

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 1