



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## C-1981-008 New Horizon December 2024 Partial Inspection Report

1 message

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

Mon, Dec 30, 2024 at 3:35 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,

Please find the attached Partial Inspection Report from my most recent December Inspection. Everything looked great and no maintenance items were noted. Please 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 Dec 2024 Partial Inspection Report.pdf**  
2233K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> December 18, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> December 18, 2024 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 10:42	<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>  Lucas West	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>  <b>Signature Date:</b>  12/30/2024

**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  
 R - Hydrologic Balance  
 N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan  
 N - Other  
 N - Processing Waste

N - Roads  
 R - Reclamation Success  
 N - Revegetation  
 N - Subsidence  
 N - Slides and Other Damage  
 R - 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. Eight 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.

**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:

At the time of the inspection, activity was taking place at Pond 013. The activity taking place was a flume replacement for the outflow discharge from the pond. The replacement flume matches the exact size and specifications as the removed flume therefore not changing the details of the measurements. The flume replacement efforts can be seen in Photo One. To facilitate the flume replacement, the inflow pipes to Pond 013 had been closed, not allowing any water to enter the pond at the time of the replacement. The pipes were closed on December 16, 2024 and planned to be opened on December 20, 2024 once the replacement was complete. The remainder of the pond appeared to be stable and in good condition at the time of the inspection, as seen in Photo Two. Also, the rock lined drop structure on the Southeast side of the pond is also in good condition as seen in Photo Three. The drop structure was not flowing at the time of the inspection and showed no signs of recent flows.

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

Adjacent to BB Road, near the Johnson Property Access Road the reclaimed parcels referred to as IP-11 and IP-9 were observed. The irrigated pastures are in excellent condition as seen in Photo Four. The fields are dormant for the winter, and no evidence of settling, slumping or erosion was noted.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

Additionally, the IP-10 area located just off BB road to the West of the BB and 2700 road intersection was observed to be in good condition. No settling or slumping was noted, and the vegetation is dense and stable at the time of the inspection. Examples of the IP-10 area can be seen in Photos Five and Six.

#### SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

At the Facilities area all shops and support facilities are in excellent condition. No fuel or hazardous materials are stored on site and all miscellaneous reclamation materials and various other items being stored there are in a neat and orderly fashion.

#### 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 located at the facilities area are two topsoil stockpiles. Both topsoil stockpiles are in good condition, the Topsoil B stockpile is marked and well vegetated as evidenced in Photo Seven. Adjacent is the Topsoil Mixed stockpile that has had recent activity. The stockpile has had material removed for reclamation efforts and has been graded back to a stable configuration. The stockpile can be seen in Photo Eight.

### PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo One: View West, showing the flume replacement in progress. The flume is being replaced as part of regular maintenance of the site.

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Photo Two: View West, showing Pond 013. Inflow into the pond has been shut off to allow for the flume replacement.



Photo Three: View South, showing the rock lined drop structure that conveys storm water from the backfill area to Pond 013. No evidence of recent flow was noted.

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Photo Four: View North, showing the reclaimed IP-9 area. The reclaimed pasture is in excellent condition and no evidence of settling or slumping was noted.



Photo Five: View Southeast, showing the reclaimed IP-10 area. The area appeared stable at the time of the inspection and is well vegetated.

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