



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## C1981022, Elk Creek Mine, December Inspection Report

1 message

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

Mon, Dec 23, 2024 at 8:00 AM

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\_12212024015829.pdf**  
629K



**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> December 17, 2024 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 01:30 <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>  December 23, 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

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

R - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - 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

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.

**OTHER (SPECIFY):**

The Gunnison Energy oil and gas project to the north of the permit area was in full production, meaning that fewer people were involved and there was less activity involving contractors in the Elk Creek facilities area and traveling on the road up Bear Creek.

Work was in progress to install a burner on the new methane destruction facility in Hubbard Creek.

**SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:**

No further progress had been made on the removal of the sub-station at the upper pad in the Elk Creek facilities area.

**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: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

## PHOTOGRAPHS



*Figure 1: Installation of methane burner in Hubbard Creek in progres*

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 4

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2