



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

C1981022, Elk Creek Mine, January Inspection Report

1 message

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

Fri, Feb 7, 2025 at 6:13 PM

To: Doug Smith <Doug.Smith@oxbow.com>

Attached.
Apologies for the delay

Leigh Simmons
Environmental Protection Specialist



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

P [720.220.1180](tel:720.220.1180)

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, CO 80203

leigh.simmons@state.co.us | <https://drms.colorado.gov>



INSP-REPORTC_C1981022_LDS_02072025060501.pdf


468K



PERMIT INFORMATION

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

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: January 22, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 13:00 Inspection End Date: Inspection End Time:	Inspection Type: Coal Partial Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Leigh Simmons	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: February 7, 2025

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

Y - Backfill & Grading

Y - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

Y - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

Y - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - 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, dry and cold. 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:

The work going on in Hubbard Creek to construct a methane destruction facility was still in progress.

There was a plan to construct a cell phone tower in the permit area, close the entrance to the water tank road. If this goes ahead a Minor Revision will be needed to update the Permit Application Packet with a description of the tower.

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: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Possible location for cell phone tower

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2