



STATE OF
COLORADO

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Bowie #1 inspection report for Feb 2025

1 message

Zuber - DNR, Rob <rob.zuber@state.co.us>

Wed, Feb 26, 2025 at 7:00 AM

To: Basil Bear <basilbear@wolverinefuels.com>, Ryan Wilson <RWilson@wolverinefuels.com>, Tamme Bishop <tammekb@gmail.com>

Good morning.

Please see the attached report.

Rob

Rob Zuber, P.E.
Environmental Protection Specialist
Active Mines Program



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

Phone: 720.601.2276 | Fax: 303.832.8106

Physical Address:

1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Address for FedEx or UPS:

Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, Room 215
1001 East 62nd Avenue
Denver, CO 80216

rob.zuber@state.co.us | <http://drms.colorado.gov>



INSP-REPORTC_C1981038_RDZ_02252025.pdf


1241K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-038 Mine Name: Bowie No. 1 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Basil R Bear P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: February 20, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 09:50 Inspection End Date: February 20, 2025 Inspection End Time: 11:30		Inspection Type: Coal Complete 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): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 2/25/2025

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

Y - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

Y - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

R - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on February 20, 2025. No staff representing Bowie Resources LLC (BRL) were present at the inspection.

No mining or reclamation activities were being conducted at this site.

No cattle were seen at the West Mine. Cattle have been seen there in the past.

The weather was cool and cloudy. The ground was mostly dry at the lower areas by the highway, but it was mostly covered with snow at the West Mine and East Mine.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were found to be well organized and complete, although the recent DRMS inspection report (for January 2025) and the pond inspection report for the fourth quarter of 2024 were missing from the notebook. Please see the list of records included in this report.

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:

The ponds at the loadout and the Coal Storage Area (near Black Bridge Road and the highway) contained no water. The ponds at the West Mine contained several inches of snow. No discharge was observed. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other aspects of these ponds.

No problems were identified with culverts, including the large culvert under the loadout and the large culvert under the West Mine.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

The Farmers Ditch was not flowing.

ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

No problems were seen at the road to the ROM area.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No erosion was seen at the West Mine, including the reclaimed road.

No problems were identified with the reclamation in the area of Ponds 1, 2, 3, and 4 (East Mine).

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

No issues with signs or markers were identified during the inspection.

OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

No erosion or other problems were seen with the Coal Storage Area beside Highway 133.

No erosion was seen at the loadout, including the steep slope between the loadout and the orchard below. The trestle across the river appears stable.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none

OTHER (SPECIFY) - none

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: 3

PHOTOGRAPHS



West Mine – road along north side



West Mine ponds

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



Reclaimed Pond 1 at East Mine



Area near reclaimed Ponds 3 and 4 at East Mine

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



Loadout slope above orchard



Slope near southwest corner of loadout

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS		HYDROLOGIC RECORDS	
DRMS Permit	Expires 4/20/2028	NPDES Permit	CO-0049045 Exp. April 30, 2025
Permit Application w/Revisions	On shelf	NPDES Records (DMRs)	Thru January 2025
Findings Document	RN8 findings 7/27/2023	Stormwater Management Plan	Aug. 2018
Insurance Certificate	Exp. 5/1/2025	SPCC Plan	No longer valid
Bond Document	SEE COMMENT 1	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release	SL9 findings		NA
Documents/Findings	12/7/2023	State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Air Emission Permits	NA	Quarterly Pond Inspections	Thru 3Q 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA	Annual Hydrology Reports	2023
UG Mining Landowner Notification	1993 and 1994	• Ground Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	2023 AHR
Rill & Gully Survey	February 2024	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	NA	• Mine Inflow Study	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	2.06.1(3) Steep Slope	• Water Consumption Records	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2024	Well Permits	NA
Midterm Review Documents	MT8 10/13/2020		
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru		
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	December 2024	BLASTING RECORDS	NA
Transfers/Succession of Operator	7/29/2009		
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA		
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2		
CERTIFICATIONS		ADDITIONAL RECORDS	
Pond Certifications	W-1 and W-2 (2002)	CDOT Access Permit	Permit #399055 (June 1999)
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA		
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Yes 2/4/1987	Annual Subsidence Report	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	Yes, several years		
Access Road Certifications	Yes, PAP Vol. 8A		

COMMENTS:

1. Two instruments with Lexon Insurance Co.: \$2,500,000 + \$268,916 = \$2,768,916.

2. The cost estimate of \$1,639,674 (from MT8) does not match liability. This is explained in SL-06 findings.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3