



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Bowie #2 inspection report for April

1 message

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Mon, Apr 7, 2025 at 6:59 AM

To: Art Etter <AETter@wolverinefuels.com>

Cc: Tamme Bishop <tammekb@gmail.com>, Ryan Wilson <RWilson@wolverinefuels.com>

Good morning, Art.

Please see my attached report for C-1996-083.

Rob

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



COLORADO
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INSP-REPORTC_C1996083_RDZ_04072025.pdf


3273K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1996-083 Mine Name: Bowie No. 2 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Art Etter 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: April 3, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 09:30 Inspection End Date: April 3, 2025 Inspection End Time: 11:20		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): Robert Zuber, P.E.	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: 4/7/2025

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

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

R - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on April 3, 2025. No BRL representatives were present for the inspection, although activities at the site were discussed with Art Etter and Ken Pitt in the office.

BRL staff were hauling material (soil stained with coal) from the D Portal Bench to Gob Pile #2. The purpose of this operation is to improve drainage from this bench, which will help prevent the slide below (above Curve 10 on the haul road) from getting worse. An excavator, loader, and two haul trucks were being used.

BRL staff have also been removing scrap metal from the site, including scrap on the D Portal Bench and scrap near Gob Pile #3.

The weather was partly cloudy and cool (41 deg F). The ground was dry.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Several deer were seen on the east side of Gob Pile #2.

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:

Six sediment ponds were inspected: B, C, D, F, J, and K. None of the ponds was close to discharging, but five of them contained water. Pond K was the exception; it was dry. No significant problems were identified with embankments, spillways, inlet channels, or other features of the ponds. A large amount of black sediment was seen by the inlet into Pond F; apparently this is from Gob Pile #2.

To address sediment loading into Pond F, BRL has flattened the ditches on the upper part of Gob Pile #2. BRL

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has also removed the sediment trap below the upper part of Gob Pile #2 to eliminate ponding on the pile. The Division agrees with both of these practices.

No issues with ditches were observed.

The Fire Mountain Canal was flowing almost full.

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11

Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

Gob Piles 1, 2, 3, and 4 appeared stable, and no significant erosion was observed.

On the upper part of Gob Pile #2, piles were seen on the northern portion of this area. This is the material that is being hauled from the D Portal Bench. On the southern portion of this area, the material has been graded, and some drainage channels have been cut. BRL staff indicated that they are grading the material daily.

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):

The paved road to the portals was in adequate condition. The slopes adjacent to this road are generally stable, except for the slide at Curve 10 (see Slides and Other Damage section).

The dirt road to Gob Pile #2 was in good condition, and it appeared that BRL staff have been using a water track. No dust from haul trucks was seen.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

No problems were seen on the slopes above and below the benches. The slides above the B Portal Bench and Curve 11 (noted in the past) look stable. The slide above Curve Number 10 also looked stable, compared to inspections in recent months.

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SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

The following areas appeared stable with no signs of erosion:

- Utility Bench
- D Portal Bench
- B Portal Bench
- Material storage area beside Topsoil Stockpile A
- Conveyor corridors
- The Coal Stockpile Pad
- The area around the office
- The Preparation Plant and nearby water tank
- Pump House and Filter Building
- Old power plant
- The Unit Train Loadout

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Topsoil stockpiles appeared to be 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.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Slump at B Portal Bench (north side)



Slump at B Portal Bench (west side)

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Work on D Portal Bench



D Portal Bench and slope below Utility Bench

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Upper portion of Gob Pile #2 (newly placed piles of material in back)



Ditch below Gob Pile #2 and deer

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Pond D



Pond F

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Gob Pile #3 (eastern portion)



Gob Pile #3 (western portion)

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Gob Pile #3 (southern portion)

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