STATE OF COLORADO

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us>

McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, March Complete Inspection Report

1 message

Wein - DNR, Clayton <clayton.wein@state.co.us> Wed, Apr 9, 2025 at 2:55 PM
To: joe <joe@ridgerunnergeo.com>, Chuck Silengo <csilengo@bresnan.net>
Cc: DNR DRMS_CoalAdmin - DNR <dnr_drms_coal_admin@state.co.us>

Good afternoon Joe,

Attached is a copy of the Division's inspection report for the month of March. Please note the maintenance highlighted in the report in BOLD text. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Clayton Wein
Environmental Protection Specialist

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

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McClane Canyon Mine, C-1980-004, March Complete Inspection Report.pdf
2036K

COLORADO
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
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PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1980-004 **Mine Name:** McClane Canyon Mine **Operator:** ARC McClane Canyon, LLC **Operator Address:** Joe Brinton 652 Peony Dr Grand Junction, CO 81507	**County:** Garfield **Operation Type:** Underground **Permit Status:** Temporary Cessation **Ownership:** Private
	Operator Representative Present: Chuck Silengo
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: March 27, 2025 **Inspection Start Time:** 10:05 **Inspection End Date:** March 27, 2025 **Inspection End Time:** 11:25	**Inspection Type:** Coal Complete Inspection **Inspection Reason:** Normal I&E Program **Weather:** Clear
Joint Inspection Agency: None	**Joint Inspection Contacts:** None
Post Inspection Agency: None	**Post Inspection Contacts:** None

Inspector(s): Clayton Wein	**Inspector's Signature:** Clayton Wein	**Signature Date:** 4/9/2025

1313 Sherman St. Room 215
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-3567

Inspection Topic Summary
NOTE: **Y**=Inspected **N**=Not Inspected **R**=Comments Noted **V**=Violation Issued **NA**=Not Applicable

N - Air Resource Protection
R - Availability of Records
N - Backfill & Grading
N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste
N - Explosives
R - Fish & Wildlife
R - Hydrologic Balance
R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan
N - Other
R - Processing Waste
R - Roads
N - Reclamation Success
N - Revegetation
N - Subsidence
N - Slides and Other Damage
R - Support Facilities On-site
R - Signs and Markers
N - Support Facilities Not On-site
N - Special Categories Of Mining
R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This report documents the Division's observations taken during a complete inspection of the McClane Canyon Mine. The inspection was conducted by Clayton Wein of the Division. ARC McClane Canyon (AMC) was represented during the inspection by Chuck Silengo. The weather was clear with a temperature of 50°F. Ground conditions were mostly dry with a few muddy areas.

Spring maintenance of the sediment control structures is being conducted as conditions allow. If the sediment gets too damp the equipment runs the risk of getting stuck. **Please continue to clean the sediment control structures as soon as conditions allow to ensure proper functionality is retained. Please replace and repair the rocks under the Sump E concrete embankment as soon as possible. Please send the Division a photo of the completed maintenance item once the repairs are completed.**

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records for the McClane Canyon Mine are located at the Mesa County Recorder's Office in Grand Junction, Colorado. Anyone who wishes to check the records will be given an instruction sheet and a computer to access the Division's Laserfiche Database. The records were up to date.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

During the inspection of the sediment pond, several sets of deer tracks were observed.

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:

Two sumps are located on the western end of the mine office pad. One sump is on the north side of the haul road.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 0
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The other is on the south side of the haul road. The northern sump was dry (Photo 1). The sump was stable with no erosional concerns. The silt fence at the outlet was in good condition. The south sump was also dry (Photo 2). The sump was stable. There were no indications of erosion. The silt fence was in good repair.

Sump P is located on the north side of the haul road in-between the mine office pad and Sump Q. The sump was dry. There were no indications of instability or erosion. The silt fence on the outlet was intact.

Sump Q was also dry at the time of the inspection (Photo 3). The culvert outlet for the sump was clear of debris. The sump was stable and there were no erosional features observed.

The sediment pond was holding a small puddle of water in it during the inspection (Photo 4). The level of sediment within the pond requires cleaning. The operator's representative stated that cleaning will continue as the soil conditions in the bottom of the pond allow. Equipment can clear some material at a time before muddy sediment is exposed and the equipment must wait for the sediment to dry again. The sediment pond was approximately 2/3 cleaned at the time of the inspection. The primary discharge pipe was clear of blockages (Photo 5). The emergency discharge channel was also unobstructed. The embankment for the pond was vegetated and stable. There were no erosional features identified.

The D-6 ditch connects Sump J to the sediment pond and parallels the south side of the haul road (Photo 6). The channel was dry and clear of obstructions. No erosion was observed.

Sump J is located on the south side of the haul road just east of the sediment pond. Sump J was not holding any water during the inspection (Photo 7). The outlet channel for the sump was clear of debris. The sump was stable and there were no erosional features noted.

The D-4 ditch parallels the north side of thee haul road and connects to Sump Q. The dich was dry and clear of obstructions. No erosional features were observed.

Sump I is located on the north side of the haul road, just west of the lower bench of the portals area. The sump was dry and stable (Photo 8). The culvert outlet for the sump was clear of debris. There were no erosional features.

Sumps A, B, C, and E are located on the portals pad. Each of the sumps intercept and collect water from undisturbed areas. The clearwater is then piped underneath the portals pad and discharged to Upper McClane Creek. Sump B is located on the northwest side of the portals pad. The sump was dry and stable. The culvert outlet was clear of obstructions (Photo 9). There were no erosional concerns noted. Sump A is located on the northeast side of the portals pad. Sump A was also dry (Photo 10). The sump was stable with no erosional concerns. The grate over the discharge pipe was clear of obstructions. Sump C is located on the east side of the portals pad. Sump C was not holding any water during the inspection (Photo 11). The sump had no indications of erosional features or instability. The grate covering the discharge outlet was unobstructed. Sump E is located on the southeast side of the portals pad. The sump was dry during the inspection. The culvert outlet was unobstructed. A small area of soil underneath the concrete embankment appeared to have sloughed (Photo 12). The concrete embankment was stable and there had not been a breach through the embankment. The operator will replace rocks and soil in this location when an excavator with a thumb on the bucket is available.

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The D-5 culvert servs the same purpose at Sump E. The culvert was stable with no erosional concerns. The culvert pipe was in good condition.

The D-2 ditch connects the upper bench on the south side of the portals pad to the D-3 ditch. The D-2 ditch was muddy and partly full of sediment (Photo 13). The ditch is scheduled to be cleaned during the spring maintenance. The ditch as it would continue to function as designed until then. The ditch was stable and clear of debris. The open culvert extending down the slope to the D-3 ditch was also stable and unobstructed (Photo 14).

The D-3 ditch is on the south side of the lower bench of the portals pad. The ditch was dry and clear of debris (Photo 15). There were no indications of instability or erosion.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

Currently the Division is in the adequacy review process for Technical Revision No. 20. The revision will increase the size of the subsoil/construction materials stockpile to accommodate sediment cleaned out of the mine site's sediment control structures. The coal waste pile is currently approved to stockpile such material. However, the stockpile has reached its storage capacity. The current decision date is set for May 13, 2025.

PROCESSING WASTE/COAL MINE WASTE PILES – Rule 4.10 and 4.11
Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization; Placement:

The coal waste pile had sediment placed on it from the material cleaned out of the sediment pond. The pile was stable and there were no erosional concerns identified. The clear water diversion ditch on the east side of the pile was clear of obstructions and dry (Photo 16). There were no indications of instability.

ROADS – Rule 4.03
Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

The haul road extends from the entrance of the mine site to the portals pad area. The road was generally in good condition with some minor ruts near the sediment pond. The road was stable with no erosional features. The ditches and northern berm were stable and in good repair.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

The office pad is on the east side of East Salt Creek. The pad was well kept, and no trash or debris were spotted. Catch pans were observed to be placed under the equipment parked on the pad (Photo 17). Any hydrocarbons were placed in the appropriate secondary containment. The pad was stable with no erosional features. The berm surrounding the pad was stable with vegetative cover.

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The portals pad was also free of trash or debris. Materials were placed in respective laydown areas (Photo 18). A catch pan was placed beneath the loader parked by the shop. The pad was stable and there were no erosional concerns.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

Mine identification signs were observed to be posted on the gate at the entrance over East Salt Creek (Photo 19). The signs were posted in an unobstructed location and easy to spot. The signs displayed the contact information for the permittee and the Division, along with the mine permit ID number.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06
Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

The topsoil stockpile is located on the southwest side of the sediment pond. The pile was stable with vegetative cover (Photo 20). There were no erosional features observed. The perimeter berm was vegetated and stable with no obstructions. No loss of topsoil resource was observed. The topsoil pile marker was clearly visible posted on top of the stockpile.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED: None

OTHER (SPECIFY): None

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ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were initiated as a result of this inspection, nor are any pending.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: The north office pad sump.

Photo2: The south office pad sump.

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Photo 3: Sump Q.

Photo 4: the sediment pond. The photo was taken looking into the pond from the inlet.

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Photo 5: The primary outlet of the sediment pond.

Photo 6: The D-6 ditch. The photo is looking upgradient and Sump J is just around the bend to the right.

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Photo 7: Sump J.

Photo 8: Sump I.

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Photo 9: The outlet of Sump B.

Photo 10: Sump A.

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Photo 11: Sump C.

Photo 12: Sump E embankment with portion being undercut.

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Photo 13: The upper portion of the D-2 ditch.

Photo 14: The open culvert of the D-2 ditch combining with the D-3 ditch.

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Photo 15: The D-3 ditch is to the left of the berm in the photo.

Photo 16: The clearwater diversion ditch east of the coal waste stockpile.

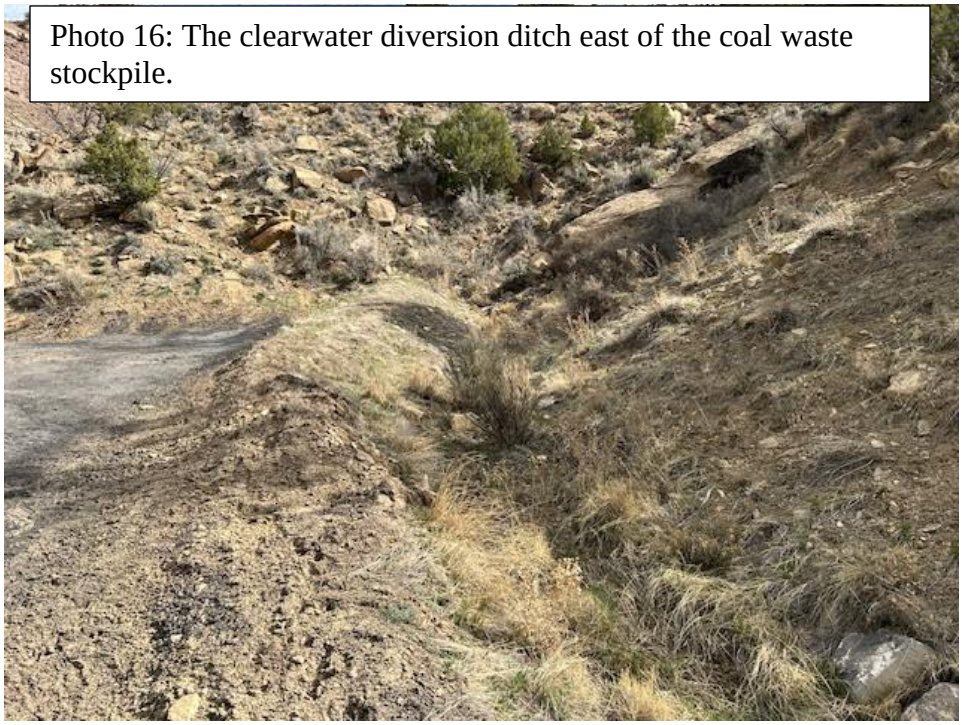

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Photo 17: The loader with catch pans underneath on the office pad.

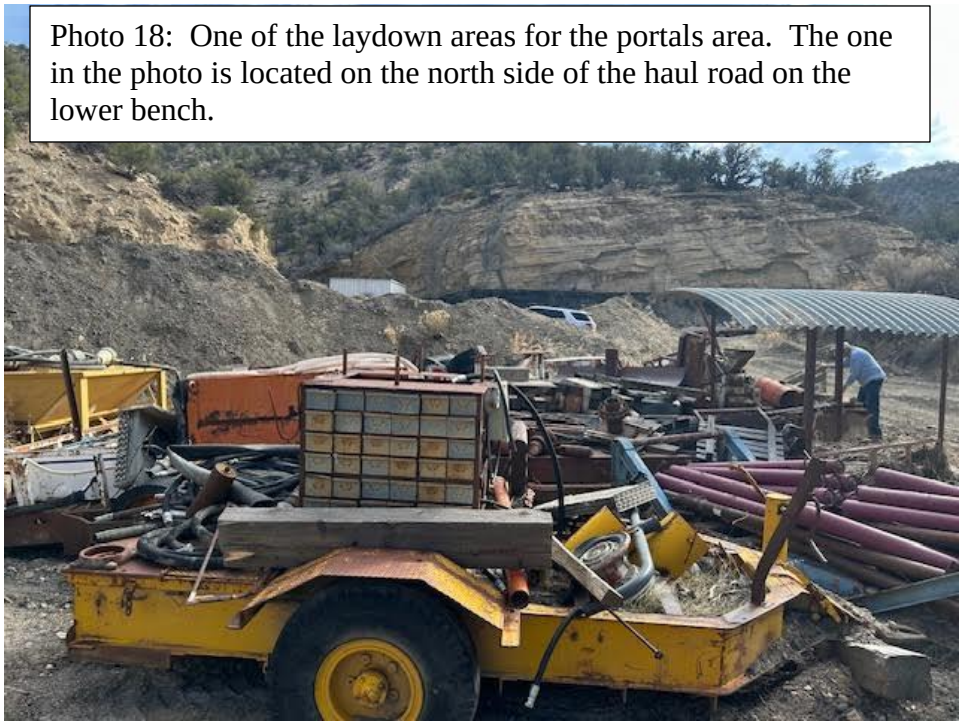

Photo 18: One of the laydown areas for the portals area. The one in the photo is located on the north side of the haul road on the lower bench.

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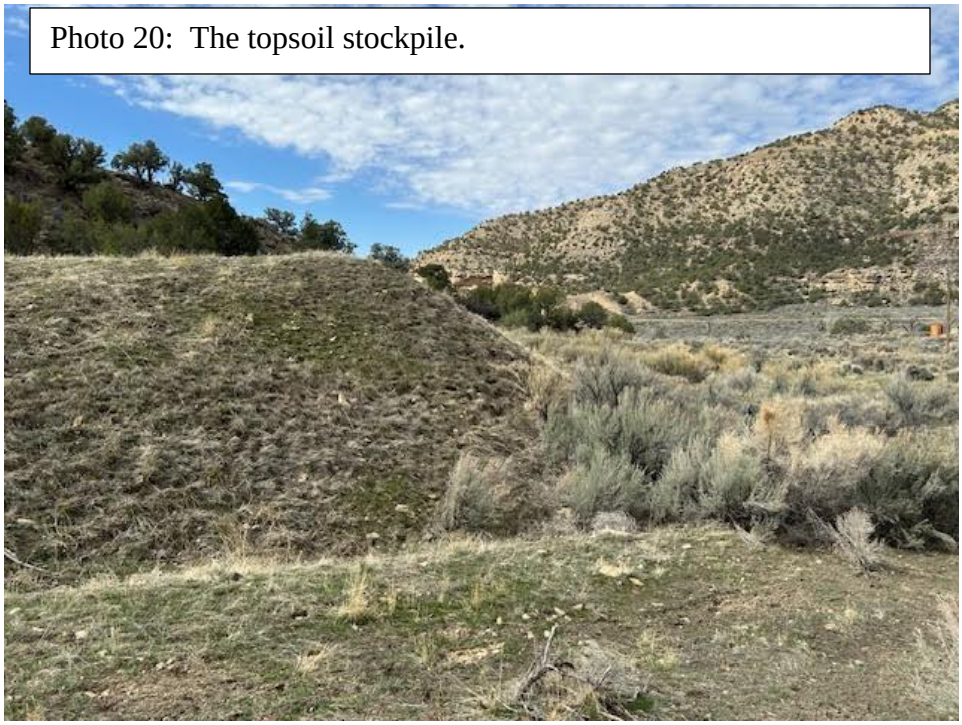
Photo 19: The mine ID sign on the entrance gate.

Photo 20: The topsoil stockpile.



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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS		HYDROLOGIC RECORDS	
DRMS Permit	RN-09	NPDES Permit	CO-0038242 COR-040098
Permit Application w/Revisions	Laserfiche	**NPDES Records**	Up to February of 2024
Findings Document	RN-09	Stormwater Management Plan	2016
Insurance Certificate	June 2025	SPCC Plan	2013
Bond Document	RN-09	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	NA	State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Air Emission Permits	Exp.	Quarterly Pond Inspections	Up to 4th Q 2024
County Special Use Permits	NA	Annual Hydrology Reports	*2023 AHR
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA	• Ground Water Monitoring	AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	AHR
Rill & Gully Survey	NA	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	AHR
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2023 ARR	• Mine Inflow Study	AHR
Specific Variance Approvals	PAP/OK	• Water Consumption Records	AHR
Annual Reclamation Reports	2023 ARR	Well Permits	OK
Midterm Review Documents	MT-08		
DRMS/OSM Inspection Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	4th Q 2024	**BLASTING RECORDS**	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	SO-4	Blasting Publication	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	2011	Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	RN-09 RCE	ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
CERTIFICATIONS		Blasting Variances	PAP
Pond Certifications	OK	Pre-Blast Surveys	PAP
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	2024		
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA	**ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)**	
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	NA		
Access Road Certifications	NA		

COMMENTS: * The due date for the 2024 AHR was extended to May 1, 2025, to allow for BLM East Salt Creek Stream gauge information to be provided to the operator for use in the 2024 AHR.

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