



May 14, 2025

Ms. Hunter Ridley  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety  
Department of Natural Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215  
Denver, CO 80203

**RE: Colowyo Coal Company L.P.  
Permit No. C-1981-019  
2023-2024 Annual Reclamation Report Response**

Dear Ms. Ridley,

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State), is the parent company to Axial Basin Coal Company, which is the general partner to Colowyo Coal Company L.P (Colowyo). The Colowyo Mine operates under the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety Permit No. C-1981-019.

Tri-State received the Division's letter for the review of the 2023 and 2024 Annual Reclamation Reports dated May 9, 2025 and has the following responses to the Division's questions:

1. *There are two mathematical errors on the ARR Report Form under the 'Acres Seeded' section. Last Year's Cumulative Total (617.9) plus Acres Added (10.9) equals 628.8, not 628.6 as reported. As a result, the third cumulative total, currently reported as 1,966.6, should be 1,966.8 after the first stated update is made. Please revise these numbers and submit an updated Figure 2-1.*

**Response:** Figure 2-1 has been corrected to reflect the difference of 0.2 acres of "Acres Seeded" cumulative total and overall total as noted.

2. *The sum of the cumulative total for Acreage in Active Mining Areas, Acres Backfilled and Graded, and Totals for Acreage in Long-term Facilities must match the Acres Disturbed. This Cumulative Total Acres Disturbed number will need to be updated once the revisions referenced in Adequacy item #1 are addressed. Please be sure to include this on the revised Figure 2-1 Form.*

**Response:** The summation in Figure 2-1 for Active Mining Areas, Acres Backfilled and Graded, and Long-Term Facilities correctly sum to the Total Disturbed Acres. Please see the following table below with the totals from Figure 2-1 demonstrating correct summation of these acreages. Additionally, changes from item 1 above do not impact reporting acreage noted in this comment.

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**2024 Acres Presented on Figure 2-1**

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Acreage in Active Mining      | 1,062.1 |
| Acres Backfilled and Graded   | 2,013.3 |
| Acres in Long-Term Facilities | 2,165.8 |
| Total                         | 5,241.2 |

Acres Disturbed 5,241.2

3. *The 2023 ARR Figure 2-1 states that total acres seeded and total acres bond released have been decreased to account for re-disturbance of areas for the construction of an access road in East Pit. It is the Division's understanding that this East Pit access road disturbance is that which was approved under TR-159 in preparation for construction of the Upper and Lower Section 3 Ponds. The Section 3 Ponds were eventually constructed in 2024.*

**Response:** Acreages reported annually in Figure 2-1 include actual activities that occurred during a given reporting year and previous years and do not include items that may have been permitted but ground activities have yet to occur. Figure 2-1 in the 2023 Annual Reclamation Report denotes bond release acres reduced for the access road that Colowyo constructed to access the stock ponds in the Final East Pit Ditch including EP1, EP2, and EP3 respectively. The Upper and Lower Section 3 Ponds including access road were not constructed in 2023; therefore, those acreages are reported in the 2024 annual reclamation report.

4. *Please clarify for the Division if the 2023 ARR Figure 2-1 Acres Seeded and Bond Release section numbers account for construction of the Section 3 Ponds which, according to the 2023 ARR Map, re-disturbed areas in two East Pit reclamation parcels which were previously Phase III released. If the 2023 ARR Figure 2-1 numbers do not account for the Section 3 Ponds construction, please revise the numbers in the 2024 ARR Figure 2-1 to account for this re-disturbance.*

**Response:** The same as the response for Item 3 above, acres presented in Figure 2-1 are representative of the reporting year and previous years. Both Section 3 Ponds and the access road were constructed in 2024 and will not be reflected on Figure 2-1 in 2023 as noted by the Division.

The Division is correct in the fact that Figure 2-1 did not include a reduction in the Phase III released acreages due to construction of the Section 3 Ponds and access road in 2024. This error has been corrected on Figure 2-1 by reducing the total Phase III released acres to date from 720.9 by 8.3 acres totaling 712.6 acres.

If you should have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Tony Tennyson at (970) 824-1232 at your convenience.



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Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*Chris Gilbreath*  
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Chris Gilbreath  
Senior Manager  
Remediation and Reclamation

GC:TT

Enclosure

cc: File: C.F 17.14  
G474-11.3(21)f - G474-11.3(21)g

**Figure 2-1 –Annual Reclamation Report Form**

**Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety**

Annual Reclamation Report for Calendar Year – 2024

Colowyo Mine

C-1981-019

Colowyo Coal Company L.P.

Mine Name

Permit Number

Permittee

5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641

Address

This report, required by Rule 2.04.13, is due by February 15 of each year, or other date, as agreed upon by the Division. It should include text, discussion, and maps, at a minimum, in addition to any other reclamation monitoring data as required by the approved permit. The location of the acreage reported under each land status category and year of seeding (if applicable) should be clearly identified on a map included with the report.

| Land Category                               | Last Year's Cumulative Total<br>(from last year's ARR) | This Calendar Year |                      |   | Cumulative Total |
|---|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
|   |  | Acres Added (+)    | Acres Subtracted (-) |   |                  |
| Acreage in Active Mining Areas <sup>1</sup> | 1,085.5  | 0                  | 23.4                 | = | 1,062.1          |

| Land Category                | Last Year's Cumulative Total<br>(from last year's ARR) | This Calendar Year |                      |   | Cumulative Total |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
|                              |  | Acres Added (+)    | Acres Subtracted (-) |   |                  |
| Acres Disturbed <sup>2</sup> | 5,216.5  | 24.7               | 0                    | = | 5,241.2          |
| Acres Backfilled and Graded  | 1,983.0  | 30.3               | 0                    | = | 2,013.3          |
| Acres Topsoiled              | 1,958.0  | 41.7               | 0.0                  | = | 1999.7           |

| Acreage in Long-term Facilities <sup>3</sup> | Last Year's Cumulative Total<br>(from last year's ARR) | This Calendar Year |                      |   | Cumulative Total |
|--|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
|  |  | Acres Added (+)    | Acres Subtracted (-) |   |                  |
| Non-Permanent Facilities                     | 2,144.3  | 17.8               | 0.0                  | = | 2,162.1          |
| Permanent Facilities (permitted)             | 3.7  | 0                  | 0                    | = | 3.7              |
| Totals                                       | 2,148.0  |                    |                      | = | 2,165.8          |

| Acres Seeded (permanent) | Last Year's Cumulative Total<br>(from last year's ARR) | This Calendar Year |                      |   | Cumulative Total |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
|                          |  | Acres Added (+)    | Acres Subtracted (-) |   |                  |
| 9 Years and Less         | 617.9  | 10.9               | 0                    | = | 628.8            |
| 10 Years and Greater     | 1,252.1  | 85.9               | 0                    | = | 1,338.0          |
| Totals                   | 1,870.0  |                    |                      | = | 1,966.8          |

| Bond Release       | Last Year's Cumulative Total<br>(from last year's ARR) | This Calendar Year |                      |   | Cumulative Total |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
|                    |  | Acres Added (+)    | Acres Subtracted (-) |   |                  |
| Phase I Released   | 2,005.2  | 0                  | 0                    | = | 2,005.2          |
| Phase II Released  | 1,829.5  | 0                  | 0                    | = | 1,829.5          |
| Phase III Released | 720.9  | 0                  | 8.3                  | = | 712.6            |