



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Bowles - DNR, Brock <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

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## Inspection reports

1 message

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**Bowles - DNR, Brock** <brock.bowles@state.co.us>

Tue, May 20, 2025 at 11:27 AM

To: Miranda Kawcak <mkawcak@peabodyenergy.com>, "Howard, Michael" <MHoward@peabodyenergy.com>

Miranda and Mike.

Here are the inspection reports for the Foidel Creek Mine, C-1982-056, and the HGLO, C-1992-081.

Brock

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**Brock Bowles**  
Environmental Protection Specialist



**COLORADO**  
Division of Reclamation,  
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### 2 attachments



**INSP-REPORTC\_C1982056\_BFB\_05192025033111.pdf**

3108K



**INSP-REPORTC\_C1992081\_BFB\_05192025053107.pdf**


1082K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1982-056 <b>Mine Name:</b> Foidel Creek Mine <b>Operator:</b> Twentymile Coal, LLC <b>Operator Address:</b> Ms. Miranda Kawcak 29515 Routt County Road No. 27 Oak Creek, CO 80467	<b>County:</b> Routt <b>Operation Type:</b> Underground <b>Permit Status:</b> Active <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  Mike Howard
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> May 12, 2025 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 10:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> May 12, 2025 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 14:30		<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Clear	
<b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Post Inspection Agency:</b>  None		<b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>	
<b>Inspector(s):</b>  Brock Bowles	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>    <b>Signature Date:</b>  May 20, 2025		

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill &amp; Grading

N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

R - Explosives

N - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

N - Processing Waste

N - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

N - Support Facilities On-site

N - Signs and Markers

N - Support Facilities Not On-site

N - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

This was a partial inspection of the Foidel Creek Mine conducted by Brock Bowles with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division). Mike Howard of Twentymile Coal, LLC. (TC) was present for the inspection. The weather at the time of the inspection was clear, warm and the ground was dry.

**EXPLOSIVES – Rule 4.08**

Distance Prohibitions 4.08.4; Warnings 4.08.4; Control of Adverse Effects 4.08.4:

The explosive lockers were locked, unobstructed, and the immediate surrounding area was free of vegetation (photo 1).

**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 focus of this inspection is to continue reviewing and inspecting the Small Area Exemptions (SAE) listed in Section 2.05-82.1 through 2.05-84.12 of the permit application that was started during last month's inspection, April 24, 2025. Each SAE description describes the location and method of sediment control for each site.

Pond T is located on the west side of the railroad spur and provides sediment control for an equipment storage area. The pond embankment is well vegetated and appears to be stable.

The primary spillway is a vertical culvert with a trash rack on top that is no longer in operable condition. The vertical part of the culvert is significantly leaning to the north. Due to the tilt, the rim is most likely not at the designed elevation (photo 2). The spillway rim elevation needs to be verified that it is at the designed elevation. A rust hole formed on the lower section of the vertical part of the culvert (photo 3). The hole compromises the operational integrity of the spillway and it no longer operates as designed. The hole needs to be repaired. The spillway structure from inlet to the outlet needs to be inspected to determine if it is structurally sound and to check for additional holes created by rust.

A significant amount of soil is missing from around the base of the spillway inlet pipe (photo 2) and around the

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outlet pipe (photo 4). The soil voids around the pipe need to be investigated to determine if water is piping around the spillway pipe and eroding the soil of the embankment.

The Pond T topsoil pile was well vegetated.

The Pond T SAE is located between the pond embankment and the railroad spur. This area is well vegetated and has a v-notched weir that creates a sediment catch basin before water is released into the culvert under the railroad. It appears there is a water seep on the north side of the SAE area (photo 5). The seep area is white with salt and mineral deposits.

The railroad spur extension SAE is located at the end of the railroad spur. The SAE is bordered on the east by the railroad track and on the west by a berm (photo 6). The SAE is long, narrow and sloped to the north directing water from the soil exposed south end to the well vegetated north side. There is several hundred feet of dense vegetation between the soil exposed area and Foidel Creek.

The SAE along the Haul Road C was in good condition. The sump check dams were maintained.

The SAE west of the Pond D discharge point needs to have the check dam sump cleaned (photo 7). The two-track access road that parallels the coal conveyor belt also needs some maintenance. The berm that separates the two-track road and Foidel Creek needs to be built up better to direct runoff water to the sump check dam.

The Pond B sump has been cleaned and is in operating condition. Water was being discharged into the sump, however the sump water level was below the spillway. The spillway had been re-lined with new rocks. The ditch from the BOB area had also been ripped with large rocks (photo 8). A misplaced topsoil stockpile sign was placed in the ditch.

Pond D was being cleaned. The material removed from the pond was hauled to the waste pile.

Foidel Creek crosses under the railroad tracks just west of where Haul Road C crosses the tracks. One of the three culverts in Foidel Creek that go under the tracks is nearly full of sediment and needs to be cleaned.

#### REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

##### Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The noxious weeds whitetop, Canada thistle and houndstongue were noted in the Pond T area and need to be treated.

#### DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

#### OTHER (SPECIFY)

### **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- Explosive locker by Pond T



Photo 2- Pond T primary spillway needs to be maintained. See close-up of red square in Photo 3

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Photo 3- Holes rusted through culvert metal.



Photo 4- Pond T primary spillway outlet pipe

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Photo 5- Pont T SAE between embankment and railroad spur, facing north



Photo 6- Railroad spur SAE, water flows from upper left to lower right, facing south

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Photo 7- Pond D West SAE needs the sump cleaned.



Photo 8- Rock lined ditch from the BOB to Pond B sump

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