



STATE OF  
COLORADO

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

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## Inspection report for C1981-028

1 message

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

Fri, May 23, 2025 at 3:36 PM

To: "Moline, Ben" <ben.moline@molsoncoors.com>

Hi, Ben -

Please see the attached report. I talked briefly to Matt at Habitat Management today. I suspect their treatment of cheatgrass will be discussed in their quarterly report for the Keenesburg site. If not, let's discuss it in a phone call at some point.

If you or they want to discuss any weed management issues with Brock Bowles (the DRMS revegetation expert) let me know.

Thanks,  
Rob

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



**COLORADO**  
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Department of Natural Resources

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**INSP-REPORTC\_C1981028\_RDZ\_05232025.pdf**  
1191K



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

<b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-028 <b>Mine Name:</b> Keenesburg Strip Mine <b>Operator:</b> Coors Energy Company <b>Operator Address:</b> Mr. Ben Moline P.O. Box 4030 Golden, CO 80402	<b>County:</b> Weld <b>Operation Type:</b> Surface <b>Permit Status:</b> Permanent Cessation <b>Ownership:</b> Private
	<b>Operator Representative Present:</b>  None
<b>Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)</b>  	

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> May 23, 2025 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 09:00 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> May 23, 2025 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 10:20	<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>  Robert Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  5/23/2025

**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

NA - Backfill &amp; Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish &amp; Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

NA - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

NA - Topsoil

**COMMENTS**

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on May 23, 2025. No Coors Energy Company (CEC) representative was present at the inspection.

The site is in Permanent Cessation. Most reclamation activities were completed in the fall of 2020. Due to poor success in some areas, however, CEC reclaimed some areas again (harrowing and seeding) in the spring of 2022 and fall of 2023. A representative of Habitat Management (Coors Energy's consultant) was onsite to consider options (e.g., mowing) for cheat grass.

The weather was clear and warm. The ground was dry.

References to areas in this report are based on the map from SL-11 (Bond Release No. 11).

**FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:**

Coyote scat was seen in the east portion of Area 36.

**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:

Sediment Pond 2 and the Dugout Pond contained no visible water; both ponds have large amounts of vegetation on their bottoms. Neither was discharging during the inspection, and there were no signs that the ponds had discharged recently. No problems were observed.

The ditch along the northern border of the site, which drains to Sediment Pond 2, was functioning.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 7

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

**GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

No signs of impacts to adjacent areas were seen at the permit boundaries.

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

No erosion problems were seen on any parcels. All portions of the permit area were observed by driving.

Across the site, vegetation cover was very good in some locations, but somewhat sparse in others. Two particular areas that have sparse vegetation were found in the following areas:

- The eastern portion of the reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area, on the edge of Areas 36 and 37. This area is located at 40.1955 deg N, -104.5007 deg W (using GPS technology and confirmed with Google Earth).
- The western portion of the reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area, within Area 36. This area is located at 40.1946 deg N, -104.5028 deg W (using GPS technology and confirmed with Google Earth).

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15****Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

A large amount of cheat grass was seen in many areas of the site, including the undisturbed areas. Cheat grass can also be seen within the surrounding parcels near the site.

Other than cheat grass, no noxious weeds were identified. One thistle plant was seen in the eastern portion of Area 43, but it appears to be a non-noxious species, possibly prairie thistle.

**SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:**

The entrance sign was in place and contained the necessary information. Boundary markers were observed on all sides of the site.

**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**



**Cheat grass within reclaimed road area, west of Sediment Pond 2**



**North side of site, looking northwest at fence line**

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**Bare area in eastern portion of reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area**



**Western side of reclaimed B Pit, looking south, with undisturbed area on the right**

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**Area 43, looking southeast (note yucca and cheat grass)**



**Thistle in Area 43 (appears to be native species)**

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