



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Inspection report for Keenesburg Strip Mine

1 message

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

Thu, Oct 30, 2025 at 9:12 AM

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

Hello, Ben -

Please see the attached report.

Rob

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



COLORADO
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INSP-REPORTC_C1981028_RDZ_10302025.pdf


1734K



PERMIT INFORMATION

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

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: October 28, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 09:45 Inspection End Date: October 28, 2025 Inspection End Time: 11:15		Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Clear	
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: 10/30/2025

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection**R** - Availability of Records**NA** - Backfill & Grading**NA** - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste**NA** - Explosives**R** - Fish & 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 complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on October 28, 2025. The weather was clear, windy, and cool (approximately 42 deg F). The ground was dry.

No Coors Energy Company (CEC) representative was present at the inspection, but Ben Moline of CEC was called via telephone at the end of the inspection. Mr. Moline indicated that the mowing that was performed at the site in the spring and summer of 2025 was done to address the large amount of cheat grass on the site.

Mr. Moline also indicated the following related to a solar project on the parcel south of the Keenesburg Strip Mine site:

- They have obtained building and grading permits from Weld County.
- They have an interconnection agreement with Xcel Energy.
- CEC will be starting construction in the next few weeks. Initial construction will be the access road, followed by grading, and finally panel installation.

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

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were generally complete and well organized, but lacked the recent Division inspection reports, namely for July and September. These need to be added to the appropriate notebook.

Please see the list of records below.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Many birds were seen around the site, including the north central part of the site and near the ponds.

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 north boundary, which directs runoff to Sediment Pond 2, appears to be functioning well.

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 of the permit area was observed from a vehicle, and some areas were walked.

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

As noted above, large areas of the permit have been mowed to address cheat grass. These include Areas 25, 34, 37, and 42. Area 42 includes reclaimed roads and adjacent areas.

Across the site, vegetation cover was generally very good in areas that have not been mowed.

Other than cheat grass, no listed noxious weeds were identified.

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.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED - none

OTHER (SPECIFY) - none

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

PHOTOGRAPHS



Area below Sediment Pond 2



North side of permit area, with ditch (looking west)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

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Mowed vegetation in Area 42 (west of Area 26)



Mowed vegetation in Area 37 (north central portion of site)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2



Good vegetation cover in Area 43



**Good cover at west side of site, looking north with reclaimed area on right
(note white permit boundary markers)**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2



Looking south at good cover in Area 36 (reclaimed Long Term Spoil Area)



Looking north at good cover in Area 38 (south of facilities area)

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 1

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS

DRMS Permit	Exp. 11/3/2026
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN-08 (April 2022)
Insurance Certificate	Exp. 11/1/2025
Bond Document	\$687,020
Phased Bond Release	SL-12
Documents/Findings	(9/16/2024)
Air Emission Permits	123008803
County Special Use Permits	Weld #1160, #386
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2024 ARR
Specific Variance Approvals	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2024
Midterm Review Documents	MT-08 (4/25/2024)
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Yrs)	June 2025
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	*1
CERTIFICATIONS	

Pond Certifications	Yes
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	NA
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	NA
NPDES Records	NA
Stormwater Management Plan	NA
SPCC Plan	Updated 2012
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
	NA

State Engineer's Pond Inspection

Quarterly Pond Inspections	Through May 2025
Annual Hydrology Reports	2024
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	NA
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	NA
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	*2

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA *3
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	NA

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

Pest and Weed report	3Q 2025

COMMENTS:

*1 RCE is \$687,020 (SL-12)

*2 Domestic use well and fire protection well (048289f, 24650f)

*3 No explosives used since 1995.

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