



STATE OF
COLORADO

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

Bowie #1 inspection report

1 message

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Thu, Nov 6, 2025 at 1:20 PM

To: Art Etter <AEtter@wolverinefuels.com>, Tamme Bishop <tammekb@gmail.com>

Art -

Here is my report from my inspection this week.

Rob

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



COLORADO
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INSP-REPORTC_C1981038_RDZ_11062025.pdf


1971K



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-038 Mine Name: Bowie No. 1 Mine Operator: Bowie Resources, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Art Etter P.O. Box 1488 Paonia, CO 81428	County: Delta Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: None
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: November 4, 2025 Inspection Start Time: 14:30 Inspection End Date: November 5, 2025 Inspection End Time: 07:30		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: 11/6/2025

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

R - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

Y - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

R - Support Facilities Not On-site

Y - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

A complete inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on November 4 and 5, 2025. On November 5th, the only action by the inspector was review of the records. Nobody representing Bowie Resources LLC (BRL) was present at the inspection.

No mining activities were being conducted at this site. At the West Mine, BRL has removed the large culvert and ponds and seeded (per BRL staff seen at Bowie No. 2 Mine), and reclamation activities, namely spreading hay, were ongoing.

The weather was warm (68 deg F) and clear. The ground was dry.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The records were organized and complete, with one exception: the 2024 Annual Hydrology Report was not found. This report needs to be added to the large binder of documents or placed in another obvious location in the office. A list of records is included in this report.

BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.14

Contemporaneous Reclamation 4.14.1; Approximate Original Contour 4.14.2; Highwall Elimination 4.14.1(2)(f); Steep Slopes 4.14.2, 4.27; Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials 4.14.3; Stabilization of Rills and Gullies 4.14.6:

At the West Mine, the reclaimed slopes match the surrounding contours.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 3

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 2

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:

East Roatcap Creek at the West Mine appears stable. Per mud on the road to the West Mine (near the reclaimed fan area), the area had seen some rainfall in recent days, but the creek was not flowing during the inspection.

The ponds at the loadout and the coal storage area by Highway 133 contained no water. No discharges or signs of discharges were observed. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other aspects of these ponds. Vegetation has been removed from the loadout pond.

No problems were identified with the large culvert (that carries the Farmers Ditch) or the other ditches and culverts at the loadout. The Farmers Ditch was not flowing.

ROADS – Rule 4.03

Construction 4.03.1(3)/4.03.2(3), Drainage 4.03.1(4)/4.03.2(4), Surfacing and Maintenance 4.03.1(5) and (6)/4.03.2(5) and (6), Reclamation 4.03.1(7)/4.03.2(7):

No problems were identified with the road to the reclaimed ROM area. As noted before, BRL should submit a revision to change the status of this road in the PAP.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No erosion was seen in the previously reclaimed areas of the West Mine, including the reclaimed fan area.

No problems were identified with the reclamation at Ponds 1, 2, 3, and 4 at the East Mine.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15

Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Cheat grass was prevalent at the coal storage area by the highway (as noted in past inspection reports). No other weed problems were observed at any of the locations that were inspected.

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SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

Signs and affected area markers were seen in many locations. No problems were identified with these.

OFFSITE SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04, 4.28:

At the inactive loadout, trucks and men were onsite. A contractor for Delta-Montrose Electric Association is using the area during work on a powerline. The Division finds no problems with this use of the loadout.

No erosion was seen at the storage area by the highway or the loadout, including the steep slope between the loadout and the orchard below. The trestle across the river appears stable.

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



West Mine – road along northern side of main portion



West Mine – straw on portion of reclamation

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West Mine – reclaimed creek



West Mine – reclaimed fan area

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East Mine – looking down at reclaimed Ponds 3 and 4



East Mine – looking down at reclaimed Pond 2

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Coal storage by highway, looking up toward highway



Loadout, looking toward bridge

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS

PERMIT RECORDS		HYDROLOGIC RECORDS	
DRMS Permit	Expires 4/20/2028	CDPS Permit	CO-0049045 Exp. April 30, 2025 (pending approval)
Permit Application w/Revisions	On shelf	CDPS Records (DMRs)	Thru October 2025
Findings Document	RN8 findings 7/27/2023	Stormwater Management Plan	Aug. 2018
Insurance Certificate	Exp.5/1/2026	SPCC Plan	No longer valid
Bond Document	SEE COMMENT 1	MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
Phased Bond Release	SL9 findings 12/7/2023		NA
Documents/Findings		State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Air Emission Permits	NA	Quarterly Pond Inspections	Thru 3Q 2025
County Special Use Permits	NA	Annual Hydrology Reports	2023
UG Mining Landowner Notification	1993 and 1994	• Ground Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA	• Surface Water Monitoring	2023 AHR
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA	• Spring & Seep Monitoring	2023 AHR
Rill & Gully Survey	February 2024	• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
Vegetation Monitoring Data	NA	• Mine Inflow Study	NA
Specific Variance Approvals	2.06.1(3) Steep Slope	• Water Consumption Records	NA
Annual Reclamation Reports	2024	Well Permits	NA
Midterm Review Documents	MT8 10/13/2020		
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru		
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	October 2025	BLASTING RECORDS	NA
Transfers/Succession of Operator	7/29/2009		
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA		
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SEE COMMENT 2		
CERTIFICATIONS			
Pond Certifications	5/5/2025	ADDITIONAL RECORDS	
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	NA	CDOT Access Permit	Permit #399055 (June 1999)
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Yes 2/4/1987	Annual Subsidence Report	NA
• Quarterly Inspections	NA		
• Compaction Testing	NA		
• Final Certification	NA		
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA		
Haul Road Certifications	Yes, several years		
Access Road Certifications	Yes, PAP Vol. 8A		

COMMENTS:

1. Two instruments with Lexon Insurance Co.: \$2,500,000 + \$268,916 = \$2,768,916.
2. The cost estimate of \$1,639,674 (from MT8) does not match liability. This is explained in SL-06 findings.

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