




COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY COAL PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-019 Mine Name: Colowyo Coal Mine Operator: Colowyo Coal Company L.P. Operator Address: Mr. Tony Tennyson 5731 State Highway 13 Meeker, CO 81641	County: Moffat, Rio Blanco Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: Kurt Blunt
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: December 19, 2012 Inspection Start Time: 12:00 Inspection End Date: December 20, 2012 Inspection End Time: 10:30		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 D. Zuber	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: 12/26/2012		

Inspection Topic Summary

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

Y - Air Resource Protection

Y - Availability of Records

R - Backfill & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

Y - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

N - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

Y - Slides and Other Damage

R - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

Y - Topsoil

COMMENTS

Rob Zuber of DRMS conducted the complete inspection. Kurt Blunt of Colowyo also participated in the inspection. The ground was covered with 30 inches or more of snow, and most of the site was not accessible. The areas that could be accessed: the Gossard Loadout area, the active pits (West Pit and South Taylor), much of the facilities area, and the ponds along Highway 13 (observed from the road).

The weather was cold and clear; no precipitation was experienced.

Several pieces of heavy equipment were clearing snow from roads. No trucks were operating. The 115 excavator was working in the South Taylor Pit, apparently clearing snow from the work area.

The county road along Wilson Creek (CR 51) was driven, and no unauthorized development was seen. Thus CCC is in compliance with the relevant stipulations.

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:

The East Pit was not accessible.

In the West Pit, the 103 dragline was idle. A drill rig was onsite but was not in operation at the time of the inspection.

EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09□ Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

No problems were identified at the Streeter Fill, the West Taylor Fill, or the East Taylor Fill. At the West Taylor Fill, a dozer was clearing snow at the dump area.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 5

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:

The following ponds were (partially) inspected: Prospect, Streeter, Rail Loop, Gossard, and Stoker Siding. The inspection entailed looking at the ponds from the nearest road. All were holding water. Streeter was observed to be discharging. It could not be determined if others were discharging. No problems were identified with embankments, spillways, or other aspects of the ponds.

The road to the Section 28 Pond was not passable due to snow.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The mine was found to be in general compliance with the permit.

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):

Several pieces of heavy equipment were clearing haul roads; the majority of the haul roads were clear at the time of the inspection, but other roads were generally blocked.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 □ Vegetative Cover; Timing:

The ground was covered with 30 inches or more of snow, and revegetation could not be assessed.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

The main facilities area, the Gossard Loadout, and the South Taylor Ready Line were inspected. They were only partially cleared of snow. No problems were observed.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions were taken as a result of this inspection, and none are pending.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



West Pit – idle 103 dragline and drill rig. The 101 dragline is in background, on horizon.



South Taylor Pit – idle haul trucks

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Haul Road to South Taylor (foreground) and West Pit reclamation (looking north)



Stoker Siding Pond

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Gossard Pond – water level below pipe invert



Road to Section 28 Pond

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Prospect Pond – flume covered with snow



Prospect Pond – embankment (photo from County Road 13)

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Streeter Pond – sign of discharge



Streeter Fill

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Gossard Loadout (looking south)

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp 11/5/2012
Permit Application w/Revisions	yes
Findings Document	RN-05
Insurance Certificate	Exp 1/1/13
Bond Document	Comment 1
Phased Bond Release	
Documents/Findings	SL-05
Air Emission Permits	Comment 2
County Special Use Permits	Comment 3
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	May 2012
Vegetation Monitoring Data	2011 ARR and SL-05
Specific Variance Approvals	Yes, in PAP
Annual Reclamation Reports	2011
Midterm Review Documents	MT-05
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Thru November
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	2012, May 2011 for OSM
Transfers/Succession of Operator	MR-113
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	SL-05
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	yes
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	NA
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	Comment 4
• Quarterly Inspections	yes
• Compaction Testing	NA
• Final Certification	NA
Coal Processing Waste Banks	NA
Haul Road Certifications	yes
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	CO 0045161
NPDES Records	Thru 3rd Q 2012
Stormwater Management Plan	yes
SPCC Plan	April 2012
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	Thru 3rd Q 2012
Annual Hydrology Reports	2011
• Ground Water Monitoring	yes
• Surface Water Monitoring	yes
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	yes
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	yes
Well Permits	yes

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	Comment 5
Blasting Records (3 years)	Thru 12/18/2012
ATFE Explosives Permit	Comment 6
Blasting Variances	NA
Pre-Blast Surveys	Yes, 1997

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS:

1. Bond numbers 929528345 and 190022683 for total of \$69,517,829.
2. Air permits 95MF1040 and 06RB1317.
3. Rio Blanco County SUP08-10, Moffat County C-05-05
4. Through 3rd quarter 2012. South Taylor Fill and West Pit Fill inspected September 14, 2012.
5. Published on 12/10/12 and 12/13/12.
6. Permit 5-CO-103-20-3E-12055.

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