




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



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1994-082 Mine Name: Yoast Mine Operator: Seneca Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr. Roy Karo 37796 Routt County Road 53 P.O. Box 670 Hayden, CO 81639	County: Routt Operation Type: Surface Permit Status: Permanent Cessation Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: Roy Karo
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: March 19, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 14:40 Inspection End Date: March 19, 2013 Inspection End Time: 12:30	Inspection Type: Coal Complete Inspection Inspection Reason: Normal I&E Program Weather: Cloudy
Joint Inspection Agency: None	Joint Inspection Contacts:
Post Inspection Agency: None	Post Inspection Contacts:
Inspector(s): Jared L. Ebert	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: March 25, 2013

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

NA - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection at the Yoast Mine; DRMS File No. C-1994-082 operated by Seneca Coal Company. I, Jared Ebert of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (Division) conducted the inspection. Mr. Roy Karo of Seneca Coal Company was aware of the inspection but did not accompany me out into the field. The weather on March 18 was cloudy and cool, the following day March 19 was clear and sunny during most of the inspection.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

A records check was conducted on March 19, 2013. Records are housed at the Sage Creek Mine office and in Dennis Jones' trailer located at the Hayden Gulch Loadout site.

BACKFILL and GRADING – Rule 4.1; 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 majority of the affected area was snow covered, some areas were partially melted and were visible. Some rilling was noted in specific areas (see Slides and Damages Section of this report for details).

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:

Pond 013 was holding water and was ice covered. The pond was discharging a small amount of water. The embankment was snow covered but appeared stable. The primary spillway was clear of debris and functional. The emergency spillway was snow covered.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 10

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

Pond 014 was holding water and was snow covered. The embankment was snow covered but appeared stable. The primary spillway was clear of debris and functional. The emergency spillway was snow covered.

Drainage YPM-3-2 was snow covered, some rip-rap was visible.

Stock tank ST-1 was holding water, the embankment was snow covered and appeared stable.

Pond 011 was holding water and was ice covered. The pond was not discharging at the time of the inspection. The primary and emergency spillway was snow and ice covered. The embankment was also snow covered but appeared stable.

Pond 012 was holding water and was discharging. The primary spillway was clear and functional. The embankment was snow covered and appeared stable.

Pond 012A was holding water, the spillway was clear and functional. The embankment was snow covered by appeared stable.

Drainage YPM-5-1 was visible, the drainage was snow covered.

Pond 010 was holding water and was ice covered. The pond was discharging at the time of the inspection. The embankment was stable and snow covered. The primary spillway was clear and functional. The emergency spillway was snow covered.

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):

Light use road LU3A and B were snow covered and could not be driven on.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

Given the snow conditions it is difficult to judge reclamation success throughout the area.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15; Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Shrub plot SP06-3 was observed, the area was snow covered and the fence appeared intact and functional.

The fence around shrub plot SP05-1 was damaged on the west side and will likely need to be repaired in the spring.

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SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

A significant amount of snow has melted in the drainage basins for YPM-19 and 7. Minor rilling was observed in this area.

The slide adjacent to Pond 012 was observed, overall the area has not changed since the last inspection, some minor rilling was observed likely due to snow melt.

The hillside adjacent to the intersection of YPM-6-2 and YPM-7 has several gullies forming that will need to be stabilized and repaired when the area is accessible.

The majority of YPM-7 was snow covered; however several portions of the channel were visible and the sidewall of the channel is cutting 3 to 4 feet in places and will need to be monitored and repaired when the area is accessible.

The neck pit slide area was observed, this area is covered with a significant snow drift.

TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06; Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

Topsoil Stockpile C was observed, this area was covered with snow and appeared stable. A topsoil identification sign was in place.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Pond 013



Stock tank ST-01



Pond 014



Pond 012 drainage basin.



Shrub Plot SP05-1, fence damage



Pond 011

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Pond 012 slide area



Rills above the intersection of YPM-6-2 and YPM-7



Pond 012



Drainage YPM-7



Drainage channel YPM-6-2



Neck pit slide area.

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Head pit



Pond 010

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AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Exp 8/5/15
Permit Application w/Revisions	X @ Sage Creek Office
Findings Document	X RN-3
Insurance Certificate	Exp 11/01/13
Bond Document	SB 005 \$2,164,901.00
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	X In SL-3 application binder
Air Emission Permits	NA
County Special Use Permits	X
UG Mining Landowner Notification	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	NA
Subsidence Monitoring Data	NA
Rill & Gully Survey	X 2012
Vegetation Monitoring Data	X 2011
Specific Variance Approvals	X PAP
Annual Reclamation Reports	X 2011
Midterm Review Documents	X 2008
DRMS/OSM Inspection	X
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	X *
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	X PAP
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	X
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	X PAP
Access Road Certifications	NA

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	X Exp 10-31-2011 renewal app. 4/22/11, ext. indef.
NPDES Records	X 4 th Q 2012
Stormwater Management Plan	Jan 3 rd 2013
SPCC Plan	NA
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Quarterly Pond Inspections	X 3 rd Q 2012
Annual Hydrology Reports	X 2011
• Ground Water Monitoring	X AHR
• Surface Water Monitoring	X AHR
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	X AHR
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	NA
• Mine Inflow Study	NA
• Water Consumption Records	NA
Well Permits	X May 1996

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	NA
Blasting Records (3 years)	NA (last blasting Feb 2006)
ATFE Explosives Permit	NA
Blasting Variances	PAP
Pre-Blast Surveys	PAP

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS: TR52.

*The Reclamation Cost Estimate was recently reviewed with Midterm Review No. 4, SCC will need to submit a Technical Revision to update the cost estimate in the permit.

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