




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



**PERMIT INFORMATION**

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

**INSPECTION INFORMATION**

<b>Inspection Start Date:</b> April 16, 2013 <b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 08:30 <b>Inspection End Date:</b> April 17, 2013 <b>Inspection End Time:</b> 14:45	<b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Partial Inspection <b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program <b>Weather:</b> Snowing
<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 D. Zuber, P.E.	<b>Inspector's Signature:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>  4/19/2013

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| N - Air Resource Protection        | R - Roads                           |
| N - Availability of Records        | N - Reclamation Success             |
| R - Backfill & Grading             | N - Revegetation                    |
| N - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste    | NA - Subsidence                     |
| N - Explosives                     | N - Slides and Other Damage         |
| N - Fish & Wildlife                | R - Support Facilities On-site      |
| R - Hydrologic Balance             | N - Signs and Markers               |
| N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan | NA - Support Facilities Not On-site |
| N - Other                          | NA - Special Categories Of Mining   |
| NA - Processing Waste              | N - Topsoil                         |

**COMMENTS**

A partial inspection was conducted by Rob Zuber of DRMS on April 16 and 17. Colowyo employees who participated in the inspection included Kurt Blunt and Tony Tennyson.

The weather entailed snow on both days. The ground was covered with snow.

Observed activities on-site included:

- The 115 excavator was idle (apparently due to weather) in the South Taylor Pit when the pit was inspected on the afternoons of April 16 and 17.
- The 114 was operating in the South Taylor Pit on the morning of April 16 (removing interburden above the G7 seam per Kurt Blunt), but it was idle on April 17.
- Also, see Backfill & Grading section.

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 102 dragline was idle in the West Pit reclamation area (“Hink’s Peak”). A dozer was pushing spoil on Hink’s Peak in an area that is not yet associated with a numbered reclamation block.

The 103 dragline was idle in the West Pit.

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:

Some observed ponds were not discharging: Rail Loop and Work Area.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 9

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

Relatively large flows were being discharged from Prospect Pond and Streeter Pond. The Section 16 Pond, Stoker Siding Pond, and the Gossard Pond had small discharges. For all discharging ponds, no sign of pollutants was observed. No problems were found with embankments or other structures except for the flume at the Section 16 Pond, which needs to be leveled.

The Section 16 Pond Ditch was inspected from the pond to a point approximately one mile to the west of the pond (distance along the ditch). No problems were identified with the ditch or its berm.

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):

Haul Roads were in need of grading due to the recent snow and melting. Graders were seen working on the roads. The Taylor Creek Road was not accessible.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

The Gossard Loadout was inspected. No problems were observed.

#### **DOCUMENTS RECEIVED**

Copy of letter from Colowyo Coal Company to OSM regarding SL-07 application.

#### **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

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

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Section 16 Pond Ditch**



**Section 16 Pond Ditch as it enters the pond**

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**Section 16 Pond embankment**



**Prospect Pond embankment and discharge channel**

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3



**Gossard Pond**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 9

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3