




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



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-022 Mine Name: Elk Creek Mine Operator: Oxbow Mining, LLC Operator Address: Mr Jim Kiger P.O. Box 535 3737 Highway 133 Somerset, CO 81434	County: Delta, Gunnison Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Active Ownership: Federal
	Operator Representative Present: Jim Kiger
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: May 7, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 13:45 Inspection End Date: May 7, 2013 Inspection End Time: 16:00		Inspection Type: Coal Partial 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): Susan L. Burgmaier	Inspector's Signature: 		Signature Date: May 7, 2013

Inspection Topic Summary

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

N - Air Resource Protection

N - Availability of Records

N - Backfill & Grading

R - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

N - Explosives

N - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

N - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

NA - Other

Y - Processing Waste

R - Roads

N - Reclamation Success

N - Revegetation

N - Subsidence

N - Slides and Other Damage

Y - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

N - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a partial inspection of the Elk Creek mine conducted by Susan Burgmaier of DRMS. Jim Kiger of Oxbow Mining Company, LLC was present during the inspection. Weather conditions were cloudy and cool, with light rain showers. Ground conditions were somewhat wet; the area had received heavy rain the day prior to the inspection.

Coal was being produced from development mining with continuous miners in the D seam in the Eastern Mining District. The longwall operations remain suspended due to adverse conditions in the western mine workings.

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

Grading and compaction were current on the II West Coal Refuse Facility. Gob material was temporarily stockpiled in the yard area north of the West Refuse Facility.

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:

Ponds A, B, and D all held water, but none were discharging. Pond E was dry. Bear Creek and Elk Creek were both running; flow was turbid in both creeks.

Sediment control structures at the Bear Creek fan site were in the midst of repair; straw bales had been removed on the lower part of the drainage channel, and the operator indicated that the bales were to be replaced in the next day or so. Bales in the upper part of the channel were in place, so sediment was being retained on the pad as designed.

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):

Most road surfaces were in good condition and well drained. The II West Haul Road was wet and muddy.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 10

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

Ditches and culverts were clear and functional with the exception of II West Culvert 5 that was partially blocked with tumbleweeds and sediment. The operator indicated that the culvert would be cleaned as soon as possible.

SUPPORT FACILITIES - Rule 4.04:

Temporary tent structures were in place at the Bear Creek and Elk Creek fan sites. The operator indicated that the structures were being utilized by MSHA for monitoring air quality in the mine. The structures were lightweight PVC and canvas structures placed in existing disturbance areas.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

Mine identification signs, topsoil stockpile markers, and disturbed area boundary markers were posted in required locations and in good condition.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

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

PHOTOGRAPHS



Bear Creek Fan Culvert



Bear Creek outflow ditch

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Elk Creek portal bench outslope



Elk Creek coal stockpile

Pond D



Pond E

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 10
Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4



Pond B



II West Refuse Facility

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Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4