




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



PERMIT INFORMATION

Permit Number: C-1981-013 Mine Name: Golden Eagle Mine Operator: New Elk Coal Company, LLC Operator Address: Mr Ron Thompson 12250 State Highway 12 Weston, CO 81091	County: Las Animas Operation Type: Underground Permit Status: Permanent Cessation Ownership: Private
	Operator Representative Present: Ron Thompson
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only)	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: April 29, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 13:00 Inspection End Date: April 29, 2013 Inspection End Time: 17:30	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): Leigh D. Simmons Daniel I. Hernandez	Inspector's Signature: 	Signature Date: 5/8/2013

Inspection Topic Summary

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

NA - Air Resource Protection

R - Availability of Records

NA - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

Y - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

R - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

NA - Other

NA - Processing Waste

R - Roads

Y - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

NA - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

Y - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

NA - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection carried out by Leigh Simmons and Dan Hernandez of Colorado Division for Reclamation, Mining and Safety (the Division). Ron Thompson of New Elk Coal Company (NECC) accompanied the inspection. The weather was dry and fine.

Most of the Golden Eagle mine has previously received final bond release; the site that continues to operate under a DRMS permit is limited to a reclaimed ventilation shaft and pad, and reclaimed access roads.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

Work on the digital record database, described in the October 16, 2012 inspection report, was on-going. In the meantime, NECC continues to maintain paper records. The records were in compliance in Mr Thompson's office (see attached checklist).

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 entire site was well drained there was no evidence of any significant erosion. The potential remains for rills to form in the natural drainage at the north-eastern edge of the site, adjacent to the firewood operation. This area will continue to be monitored although there were no problems at the time of the inspection.

GENERAL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

The mine was in compliance with the permit. Technical Revision 57 is in progress, NECC are in the process of responding to some adequacy issues.

The valves shown in photo 2 appear to be associated with gas pipelines. The valves are located outside of the permit boundary. Rule 2.10.3(e) requires that any pipelines within the permit boundary be displayed on a map. **NECC should verify the location of the pipeline and, if necessary, include it on the map to be submitted with TR57.**

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

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):

The lower section of the access road is currently used to access oil and gas wells. It was well maintained and is gated just above the junction with Las Animas County Road 233.

The remainder of the access road has been reclaimed. Although vegetation was fairly sparse on the south-facing reclaimed road, this was also true on adjacent undisturbed land. There was no evidence of any erosion.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 ☐ Vegetative Cover; Timing:

Vegetation at the site was beginning to signs of new growth. No noxious weeds were observed.

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

N/A

OTHER (SPECIFY)

N/A

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE

No enforcement actions are necessary at this time.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Mine ID sign



Photo 2: South eastern edge of site



Photo 3: North eastern edge of site – potential for rills to form



Photo 4: Upland diversion ditch

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS**PERMIT RECORDS**

DRMS Permit	Expires 6/22/2014
Permit Application w/Revisions	(Binder)
Findings Document	(Binder 1) MTR 4/23/2012
Insurance Certificate	Expires 9/23/2013
Bond Document	\$72,099
Phased Bond Release	SL6
Documents/Findings	
Air Emission Permits	Cancelled 9/1997
County Special Use Permits	n/a
UG Mining Landowner Notification	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Reports	n/a
Subsidence Monitoring Data	n/a
Rill & Gully Survey	Terminated
Vegetation Monitoring Data	n/a
Specific Variance Approvals	n/a
Annual Reclamation Reports	2012
Midterm Review Documents	(Windowsill) 4/23/2012
DRMS/OSM Inspection	Through
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	3/13/2013
Transfers/Succession of Operator	(Binder) 5/5/2008
Temporary Cessation Notification	n/a
Reclamation Cost Estimate	MTR findings 4/23/2012
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	n/a
Annual Certifications for Impoundments	n/a
Fill Certifications for Excess Spoil or Underground Development Waste	n/a
• Quarterly Inspections	n/a
• Compaction Testing	n/a
• Final Certification	n/a
Coal Processing Waste Banks	n/a
Haul Road Certifications	n/a
Access Road Certifications	n/a

HYDROLOGIC RECORDS

NPDES Permit	Terminated 1995 & 2003
NPDES Records	n/a
Stormwater Management Plan	n/a
SPCC Plan	n/a
MSHA Pond Inspections	n/a
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	
Quarterly Pond Inspections	n/a
Annual Hydrology Reports	n/a
• Ground Water Monitoring	n/a
• Surface Water Monitoring	n/a
• Spring & Seep Monitoring	n/a
• Mine Water Discharge Monitoring	n/a
• Mine Inflow Study	n/a
• Water Consumption Records	n/a
Well Permits	*1

BLASTING RECORDS

Blasting Publication	n/a
Blasting Records (3 years)	n/a
ATFE Explosives Permit	n/a
Blasting Variances	n/a
Pre-Blast Surveys	n/a

ADDITIONAL RECORDS (specify)

COMMENTS:

*1 Transferred to New Elk mine

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 6

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 4