




**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: Dennis Jones
Operator Representative Signature: (Field Issuance Only) 	

INSPECTION INFORMATION

Inspection Start Date: May 14, 2013 Inspection Start Time: 10:43 Inspection End Date: May 15, 2013 Inspection End Time: 09:00	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): Jared L. Ebert	Inspector's Signature:  Signature Date: March 21, 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

Y - Backfill & Grading

NA - Excess Spoil and Dev. Waste

NA - Explosives

R - Fish & Wildlife

R - Hydrologic Balance

Y - Gen. Compliance With Mine Plan

NA - Other

R - Processing Waste

Y - Roads

R - Reclamation Success

R - Revegetation

NA - Subsidence

R - Slides and Other Damage

NA - Support Facilities On-site

R - Signs and Markers

NA - Support Facilities Not On-site

NA - Special Categories Of Mining

R - Topsoil

COMMENTS

This was a complete inspection of the Yoast Mine, DRMS Permit No. C-1994-082. I, Jared Ebert of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety conducted the inspection. Mr. Dennis Jones of Seneca Coal Company was aware of the inspection but did not accompany me into the field. The weather was partly cloudy to sunny during most of the inspection.

AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS – Rule 5.02.4(1):

The Division conducted a records check. The majority of the mine records are located at the Sage Creek Mine office and the hydrology records are located in Dennis Jones office at the Hayden Gulch Loadout site. See the last page of this report for details of the Division's findings.

FISH and WILDLIFE – Rule 4.18:

Two porcupines was observed along the YPM-6-1 and 6-2 drainage.

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 011 was holding water and discharging. Some debris was observed in the trash rack of the primary spillway that will need to be removed but overall the spillway was functional. The discharge culvert of the primary spillway was measure to be 12". The emergency spillway is under laid with geo-textile fabric, rip-rapped and stable. The embankment was vegetated and stable. Overall this pond appears to be constructed as depicted in the As-Built Map, Exhibit 13-5A.

In the north areas, YPM drainage 21 and 21B were walked. Several gullies are forming on the outside of the Turf Re-Inforced Matting (TRM) in YPM-21B.

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Several surge tanks have been constructed in the YPM-13 drainage. Several rills were observed above the uppermost surge tank. The lower surge tank along this drainage needs to be repaired. Large rills have formed above the tank and the embankment where the discharge pipes and spillway is located has been blown through.

The lowermost discharge pipe in the surge tank in YPM-9 is plugged with sediment and will need to be repaired.

Pond 011A is holding water but is not discharging. The primary spillway is clear and functional and the emergency spillway was stable.

The rip-rap in the YPM-9 and 10 drainages have washed off the TRM.

YPM-16 is rip-rapped and stable.

ST-01 was holding water but was not discharging. The rip-rap above the inlet has washed off the TRM. The embankment was stable and the spillway was clear and functional.

The rip-rap in YPM1-1 has washed off the TRM in several places.

Drainages YPM-3-1 and 3-1A were stable and functioning.

The rip-rap in YPM-3-2 has washed off the TRM in places and the channel is side cutting.

Pond 010 was holding water and discharging. The primary and emergency spillways were clear and functional. The embankment was stable and vegetated.

The YPM-7 drainage is damaged, a six to seven foot side cut has formed on the side of the channel just above the intersection of YPM-6-2. Sediment has collected at the top of the YPM-6-2 channel. Also, a large gully has formed in the YPM 6-1 channel. Rock and equipment has been staged in this drainage area and it appears the operator is actively making repairs to these channels.

The lower section of YPM 6-2 has been re-shaped and rip rapped.

Rills are forming outside of the TRM installed in the YPM-6-3 drainage.

Several Rip-Rap gabion basket check dams have been installed along the YPM5-1 and 6-3 drainage.

Pond 012A is holding water and discharging. The primary spillway is clear and functional and the emergency spillway is rip rapped and stable. The embankment is stable and vegetated.

Pond 013 is holding water and discharging. The primary and emergency spillway was clear and functional. The embankment was stable and vegetated.

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Some of the rip-rap from YPM-3-2 drainage has sloughed off and piled up at the end of the channel and as a result some side cutting of the channel has occurred around the pile of rip-rap.

YPM-3-2A and YPM-14 is stable and rip-rapped.

Pond 014 is holding water and discharging. The primary and emergency spillway is clear and functional. The emergency spillway is stable. It appears water is undercutting under the flume and thus the discharge rate cannot be accurately measured. The Operator will need to repair the flume.

Repairs will need to be conducted on the damaged drainages. As stated above, it appears the operator has begun repairs on several of the drainages.

RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:

No area is under evaluation for Bond Release at this time.

REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15; Vegetative Cover; Timing:

A shrub planting area was observed above Pond 012. Overall, the shrubs appear to have been significantly browsed but many of the plants appear to be alive and are budding out.

Spring germination is occurring throughout the reclaimed area. Several bare areas were observed in the north pit area above YPM-10. Very few weedy species were observed at this time.

SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:

The neck pit slide was observed, moisture was observed near the stand of aspen adjacent to the slide. This water was slowly draining from the area from the established drainage.

There is a slump that was identified in 2011 above Pond 012A, this slump was observed. Overall there is a two to three foot scarp and a toe bulge. The area is vegetated primarily with annual forbs.

The Pond 013 slide area was observed. It does not appear significant movement has occurred since the site was observed in October of 2012.

SIGNS AND MARKERS – Rule 4.02:

The mine identification signs were in place.

Several boundary makers were observed near Pond 011 and it appears they are in the correct position and configuration.

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TOPSOIL – Rule 4.06

Removal 4.06.2; Substitute Materials 4.06.4(4); Storage and Protection 4.06.3; Redistribution 4.06.4:

It appears the Operator is pulling topsoil out of stockpile “L” and placing it in the graded area above Pond 012.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



YPM-22 and 16 from north pit area looking southwest.



Rills above upper surge tank in YPM-13.



YPM-21B, rills outside of the TRM



Lower surge tank in YPM-13 drainage.
Damaged and need repair.



North Mine Area.



Pond 012 and 012a drainage basin.

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YPM 3-2. Damage



YPM-6-1. Damage



YPM-7 draining into YPM-6-2



YPM-6-1 Damage



YPM-7.



YPM-6-1 Damage

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Porcupine



Rills above YPM-6-2.



YPM-6-2 Repair



Small drainage undercutting the flume at Pond 014. Need repair.



Topsoiling above Pond 012.

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PERMIT RECORDS

DRMS Permit	Exp 8/5/15
Permit Application w/Revisions	X @ Sage Creek Office
Findings Document	X RN-3, MT4
Insurance Certificate	Exp 11/01/13
Bond Document	SB 005 \$2,164,901.00
Phased Bond Release Documents/Findings	X In SL-4 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 2012
Specific Variance Approvals	X PAP
Annual Reclamation Reports	X 2012
Midterm Review Documents	X MT4, 2013
DRMS/OSM Inspection	X
Reports/Enforcement Actions (3 Years)	
Transfers/Succession of Operator	NA
Temporary Cessation Notification	NA
Reclamation Cost Estimate	X MT4
CERTIFICATIONS	
Pond Certifications	X PAP
Annual Certifications for Large Impoundments	X Jan 2013
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 1Q 2013
Stormwater Management Plan	Jan 3 rd 2013
SPCC Plan	NA
MSHA Pond Inspections	NA
State Engineer's Pond Inspection	NA
Quarterly Pond Inspections	X 1Q Q 2013
Annual Hydrology Reports	X 2012
• 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:

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