




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



## PERMIT INFORMATION

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| <b>Permit Number:</b> C-1981-037<br><b>Mine Name:</b> GEC Strip Mine<br><b>Operator:</b> GEC Minerals<br><b>Operator Address:</b><br>Dr W Corley<br>2605 Constellation Drive<br>Colorado Springs, CO 80906 | <b>County:</b> Fremont<br><b>Operation Type:</b> Surface<br><b>Permit Status:</b> Revoked<br><b>Ownership:</b> Private |
|  | <b>Operator Representative Present:</b><br><br>NA  |
| <b>Operator Representative Signature:</b> (Field Issuance Only)  |  |

## INSPECTION INFORMATION

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|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Inspection Start Date:</b> May 8, 2013<br><b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 12:30<br><b>Inspection End Date:</b> May 8, 2013<br><b>Inspection End Time:</b> 14:30 |  | <b>Inspection Type:</b> Coal Complete Inspection<br><b>Inspection Reason:</b> Normal I&E Program<br><b>Weather:</b> Cloudy |   |
| <b>Joint Inspection Agency:</b><br><br>None  |  | <b>Joint Inspection Contacts:</b>  |   |
| <b>Post Inspection Agency:</b><br><br>None   |  | <b>Post Inspection Contacts:</b>   |   |
| <b>Inspector(s):</b><br><br>Janet H. Binns   | <b>Inspector's Signature:</b><br> |  | <b>Signature Date:</b><br><br>5/29/2013 |
|  |  |  |   |

**Inspection Topic Summary**

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

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

**COMMENTS**

This was a complete inspection conducted by Janet Binns of DRMS. The GEC mine permit has been revoked previously. All available bond money was used for reclamation of the site.

The mine was dry during the inspection. A thunder storm moved in to the area at 2:15 pm.

**EXCESS SPOIL and DEVELOPMENT WASTE – Rule 4.09**

Placement; Drainage Control; Surface Stabilization:

Slopes throughout the site remain static. No new gullies appear to have formed. Existing gullies do not appear to have increased in size or depth. The gully between the east and west pits appears to have deposited some additional sediment on the access road. There is some undercutting of the spoil to the west side of this gully.

**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 sediment pond at the north end of the reclaimed area remains full of sediment. Some head cutting back from the spillway area is occurring. This pond area was dry at the time of the inspection. Some of the runoff directed to this pond is diverting along the road ditch and no longer passes through the pond.

The roadside ditches continue to down cut. Sediment is deposited along flatter portions of the ditches or alongside the roadway.

**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):

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 0

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

The roads are still navigable with a mid-sized SUV. Due to side cutting of the road the tight curve at the southwest point of Chen's Hill continues to narrow. Runoff contributing to this ditch comes from the top, south and west sides of Chen's Hill as well as the access road.

Sediment has deposited on the access road between the East Pit and West Pit. The access road across the drainage at the northern end of the East pit can still be crossed with a vehicle.

**RECLAMATION SUCCESS - Rule 4.15, Rule 3:**

The area received little snowpack this past winter and weather conditions have started as a dry spring. Occasional precipitation events have been recorded in neighboring areas (DRMS access on-line weather station information), but the area has been generally dry. As a result the vegetation has not begun vigorous growth yet this season. Few bare areas are visible throughout the reclaimed GEC. There is evidence of wildlife use throughout based on elk track and scat, as well as bird tracks.

**REVEGETATION – Rule 4.15 □ Vegetative Cover; Timing:**

The vegetation throughout the GEC site is beginning to green up. The site is dry but the perennial grasses were showing evidence of sprouting. Forbs were growing and some were in bloom. Noxious weeds were not present in any appreciable amounts. An occasional bull thistle could be viewed, but none of the occasional weedy species could be considered a patch. Although permanent gullies remain on the reclaimed slopes, vegetation on the rest of the slopes continues to stabilize the surface. New gully formation was not encountered, nor did it appear that existing gullies were enlarging appreciably.

**SLIDES and DAMAGE - Rule 4.12:**

Gullies remain, though no new gullies were noted, nor does it appear that existing gullies have enlarged over the winter months.

**DOCUMENTS RECEIVED: NA**

**OTHER (SPECIFY)**

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS/COMPLIANCE**

This is a revoked site. As such there is not a valid permit associated with this site. The Bond was forfeited and all available bond monies were used to reclaim the site.

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 0

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



Ridge between east and west pits



perennial grasses beginning to green up on top of West pit



East slope of the east pit perennial gullies on slope



Stable perennial vegetation on east slope of East Pit

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Southern extent of East pit drainage



permanent gullies and stable vegetation in East Pit

Number of Partial Inspection this Fiscal Year: 0

Number of Complete Inspections this Fiscal Year: 3