

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF RECLAMATION

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

Inspector Name: Lorenzo Date of Inspection: 6-25-24 Time: 12:30  
Unit #: 386 County: Pike Date of Last Inspection: 5-20-24  
Status: A Weather/Ground Conditions: Sunny dry 85  
Inspection Type:        Partial   x   Complete        Administrative  
Operation Type:   x   Surface        Processing        Exploration        Underground  
Is This Inspection for Last Month? Yes     No   X  

Mines/Permits with this Unit:

S-333 Responsible Energy Operations, LLC, Charger Mine, White Church Field

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS INSPECTED**

INSPECTION CHECKLIST: For any items marked (X), provide a narrative to support this determination. Items marked (S) were satisfactory. Items marked (NA) are not applicable to this inspectable unit.

- x   1. Areas Permitted, Bonded, or Unsuitable.
- x   2. Signs and Markers, Survey Corner Markers, Blasting signs and Markers.
- x   3. Operations, Coal Recovery, and Cessation of Operations.
- x   4. Backfilling and Grading, Contemporaneous Reclamation.
- x   5. Topsoil, Alternate Material, and Prime Farmland Handling.
- x   6. Revegetation/Rills and Gullies, and Slides.
- S   7. Post-Mining Land Use, Fish and Wildlife Mitigation.
- x   8. Hydrologic Balance.
- NA   9. Disposal of Coal/Non-Coal Waste, and Excess Spoil.
- s   10. Auguring, Processing, and Steep Slopes.
- s   11. Transportation and Support Facilities – Utility Installations
- NA   12. Casing/Sealing Exposed Underground Openings.
- NA   13. Subsidence Control Prevention.
- S   14. Liability Insurance Expires   11-10-24
- 15. Bond Release Information.
- x   16. Other Permit and Site Conditions:   NPDES# Permit #ING040129
- N   17. Off-Site Impacts Noted (Y/N) (If yes, attach off-site impact form as COVER to this inspection.)
- 18. Blasting Records, Blasting Notice, Ground Vibration Records, Airblast Records, Blasting Operations, Flyrock.

Responsible Official, Address & Email:

Responsible Energy Operations, LLC  
Kevin Houston  
625 N 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Petersburg, IN 47567  
khouston@responsibleenergy.com

Copy Issued To, Include Email:

kubelhor@responsibleenergy.com

Signature:



Date: 6/28/24

Authorized Representative  
Division of Reclamation

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Permittee: Responsible Energy Operations, LLC Date of Inspection: 6-24-24  
 Mine Name: Charge Mine White Church Field Time: 12:30  
 Unit #: 386 County: Pike  
 Signature of Company Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:** Inspection conducted with Korre Ubelhor (REO)

1.,15. Acreage Balances from DoR Database:

Permitted Acres	3798.1	Balance of Acres Held	
			Phase I (grading): 1149.6
			Phase II (revegetation): 1196.6
			Phase III(final): 1269.7

2. Perimeter (preferably bond line) markers should continue to be maintained or posted as necessary. Markers remain present along diversion S2-A. Correct Mine ID signs are posted at public access areas.

3. Permit overlaps U-33 permit. The west (U-33) pit area is currently to be left as a future underground portal in agreement with Solar Sources Underground, LLC., and is currently approved to be reclaimed to forest and wildlife with wooded corridors.

The west (underground) pit is currently under grading deferral until September 1, 2024. Request for 94 acres has been approved. Additional bond will be required to extend the deferral beyond that date.

The east pit was active with blast preparation and surface recovery operations to the east. Highwall mining continues at intervals in the west portion. Mining is advancing back to the east part of the pit. Highwall miner holes are closed with exception of those required to remain by MSHA. Operator is reminded of the additional boring requirements set forth in non-sig 125 approved on 12-18-23 as advance to the western Zone 2B area follows:

Therefore, prior to highwall mining the V Coal located in the eastern half of HWM Zone 2A (that area approximately located on the east side of the S-126 permit boundary line as depicted on the OPERATIONS MAP) and any of the V Coal located in the area of HWM Zone 2B, Responsible Energy Operations, LLC will submit and have approved (under separate future nonsignificant permit revision) the analytical and calculated information from an additional rock mechanics boring located in the western half of the HWM Zone 2B area. Information to be submitted by the permittee will include (at a minimum); a log of drilling down to and floor material of the V Coal; applicable parameter laboratory rock mechanics testing results of V Coal and its roof and floor material; updated ARMPSHWM module build 1.3.02 input data calculating web and barrier pillar stability factor results; and updated Vesic-Speck input data calculating floor safety factor results.

Upper seam recovery continues in the east side of the pit. Photos of highwall operation and backfilling during inspection:



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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COMMENTS:

5./6. Pit advancement is occurring in the east pit. "Soils" remain as non-prime, with no soil segregation required in the immediate advance area of the pit. Permit revision has been approved to address the change in equipment from current permit language a truck/shovel operation and regarding soil removal and pit benching. The standard truck/shovel soil removal is 25' in advance and 10' along endwalls. Benching was satisfactory during inspection.

Soil material is being directly replaced behind the West end of the pit as removal occurs. Photos below:



Previously replaced soils have wheat present. Late spring and current soil material is stable. Previously reclaimed areas are well vegetated with trees and shrubs present.

8. Diversion SS2-A remains stable and carrying pit water within the channel. Outfalls and ponds were stable at usual water levels. Drone photos were taken of Pond SBSS-2 during inspection:



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**COMMENTS:**

8. Continued. Diversion SS2-A:



NPDES monitoring is current as well as surface and groundwater data submittals. Quarterly impoundment inspections were submitted for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter regarding WC-298SP(U-33 beaver pond former outfall 808), KWCW 299SP-EXP and KWCW 102 SP.

<b>NPDES PERMIT: ING 040129</b>							
<b>NPDES Outfall #</b>	<b>NPDES Status</b>	<b>Discharge</b>	<b>Flow rate</b>	<b>pH meter</b>	<b>Iron Mg/l</b>	<b>Settable solids</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
813	ALK	Y	L	7.8			SBSS-2 shared with S-126 inspection exempt
814	ALK	Y	L-M	8.3			KWCW-299 SPEXP shared with U-33
815	ALK	N					KCKW102SP Quarterly, shared with U-33
	<b>Status:</b> UND ALK ACID DROP	<b>Discharge:</b> Yes No	<b>Flow:</b> Trickle (T) Low (L) Moderate (M) High (H)				

Signature: 

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COMMENTS:

10. Processing plant was active during inspection. Photo below:



16. CCW material is approved at the site for structural fill in parking/staging areas and to supplement haul road rock material as per March 2019 acknowledgement letter. 500,000 tons were approved to be utilized at that time. No CCW material was being hauled to site during inspection.

Signature: 

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