

August 27, 2003

TO: Internal File
THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor
FROM: James D. Smith, Senior Reclamation Specialist
RE: 2003 Second Quarter Water Monitoring, Energy West Mining Company, Deer Creek Mine, C0150018-WQ03-2, Task # 167

1. Were data submitted for all of the MRP required sites? YES [X] NO []
Identify sites not monitored and reason why, if known:

2. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.
See Technical Directive 004 for baseline resampling requirements. Consider the five-year baseline resubmittal when responding to question one above. Indicate if the MRP does not have such a requirement.

Resampling Due Date

Renewal submittal due 10/07/00, renewal due 2/07/01. Baseline analyses were performed in 1996 and 2001 and will be repeated every 5 years, i.e., next baseline analyses will be in 2006.

3. Were all required parameters reported for each site? YES [X] NO []
Comments, including identity of monitoring site:

4. Were irregularities found in the data? YES [X] NO []

Comments, including identity of monitoring site:

RCF-1 May: flow (n = 92) was outside the two standard deviation range;

RCF-3 May: flow (n = 119) was outside the two standard deviation range;

RCW-4 May: flow (n = 124) was outside the two standard deviation range;

MFA-1 June: flow (n = 55) was outside the two standard deviation range;

MFB-2 June: Ca (n = 8) was outside the two standard deviation range;

UPDES - 23604-001 May: Mg (n = 69) and field pH (n = 145) were outside the two standard deviation range;

UPDES - 23604-001 June: Mg (n = 69) and HCO₃ (n = 156) were outside the two standard deviation range;

UPDES - 23604-002 April: field conductivity (n = 172) was outside the two standard deviation range;

Rilda Canyon Meter-3 June: flow (n = 48) was outside the two standard deviation range;

DCRW-1: acidity (n = 6) was outside the two standard deviation range;

EM-47 April and May: water elevation (n = 97) was outside the two standard deviation range. NOTE: water elevation is not a required parameter but is calculated within the database from water depth, which is required and has been reported. The water depth has been decreasing for several years but at a rate slow enough that it has not triggered the two standard deviation notice in the database, but the increasing water elevation has been outside two standard deviations since December 2002. Depths measured in June and July are lower and water elevations are back within the two standard deviation limit. The attached chart shows these recent changes in water level indicate a return to typical conditions rather than an upset.

5. Were DMR forms submitted for all required sites?

1st month, YES [X] NO []
2nd month, YES [X] NO []
3rd month, YES [] NO [X]

Identify sites and months not monitored:

Data were submitted electronically for all three months. DMRs were submitted in electronic format (Adobe) for April and May but not yet for June – the DMRs for June are expected before the end of the third quarter.

6. Were all required DMR parameters reported?

YES [X] NO []

Comments, including identity of monitoring site:

DMR parameters that are not included in the parameter lists in the MRP are not reported.

7. Were irregularities found in the DMR data?

YES [X] NO []

Comments, including identity of monitoring site:

UPDES - 23604-001 May: pH (n = 145) was outside the two standard deviation range;

8. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

At EM-47, water depth has been decreasing for several years but at a rate slow enough that it has not triggered the two standard deviation notice in the database, but the increasing water elevation has been outside two standard deviations since December 2002. Depths measured in June and July are lower and water elevations are back within the two standard deviation limit. The attached chart shows these recent changes in water level indicate a return to typical conditions rather than an upset. No further action is recommended

Several other values were outside the two standard deviation range. None of the values are extreme. Recommended action is to watch for trends.

Deer Creek Mine - EM-47

