

Tour Day 7

Yongchuan Coal Line - Honglu

We received the normal friendly reception at this line today. We mainly explored the top section from Honglu to the mine(s) but had lunch at Old Honglu on the bottom section and saw two trains on the section Honglu to China Rail.



A chicken shot (3 on the left) with No. 4 working coal to the washery at Honglu.



Stone marker for Km 17 west of Honglu.



No. 4 again with empties in a country section of the line away from the road.



And about 1 hour later returning with a loaded train.



No. 2 caught us a bit unprepared over lunch at Old Honglu.



The unnumbered new loco at Old Honglu. In 2014, this loco was eagerly anticipated by the crews as unlike the older fleet of locos it had air conditioning.



In the afternoon, we went back to the Honglu - mines section to find No. 4 again.

Only one train is serving the west section (mine to washery) but two trains are taking coal to China Rail. The mine at Liuqing (No. 6 mine) close to Honglu is not sending coal out by rail or road and may be closed.

Compared to my first trip, I also think that the line has been cut back at the

far west end so maybe the mine there has also closed. Mines are still serving this railway at Honglu and Weijiagou. But, there were originally seven mines, only three the last time I visited in 2014 and probably only two now.

We will be back to see more of the Honglu - China Rail section tomorrow.

John Raby
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