

## **National Technology Transfer Team Teleconference**

**October 7, 2015**

### **PARTICIPANTS**

Michael Richmond, OSMRE, NTTT and ARTT Lead  
Jeff Trump, Tiara Neal, OSMRE, Appalachian Region  
Debbie Dale, OSMRE, Mid-Continent Region  
Duane Matt, Debbie McGinnis, OSMRE, Western Region  
Cecil Slaughter, OSMRE, Headquarters  
Greg Conrad, IMCC  
Russ Kirkham (Alaska), WIEB  
Travis Parsons, NAAMLPL

### **DISCUSSED CURRENT STATUS**

- Personnel
  - Russ Kirkham of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will be the WIEB representative on NTTT
  - Travis Parsons of West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (AML) served as NAAMLPL alternate for Mike Sharp
  - Team Recorder – Jeff Trump served as recorder
  
- RFP Status
  - RFP Issued on August 3, 2015
  - Proposals due by November 3, 2015
  - Anticipate Short Turnaround on Proposal Evaluation, as follows:
    - Regional experts complete their Review by November 20, 2015
    - Regional Tech Transfer Teams complete their review and scoring by December 21, 2015
    - NTTT will meet the week of January 19-22, 2016, to complete ranking and provide results to OSMRE Senior Management Sponsor

### **MEMBER REPORTS**

- Western Region
  - NAAMLPL Conference was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, September 28-30, 2015
  - Information from the event is on the NAAMLPL website
  
- Appalachian Region

- Mike Richmond is reviewing the Technology Development and Transfer (TDT) webpage, and working to establish a direct link from the OSMRE main page to the TDT page
- The Appalachian Region held a Tech Transfer event at the Flight 93 Memorial site. The event showcased a mine water treatment system on the former mine site that makes use of aeration, settlement ponds, polishing wetlands, and a demonstration manganese removal limestone bed. A description of the event and system design and construction details are available on a dedicated Flight 93 page on the OSMRE website.
- Headquarters
  - The DOI working group on Technology Transfer will be sending OSMRE a request for information to be included in the DOI Technology Transfer Annual Report. OSMRE will write the section which will be inserted, along with sections from other DOI Bureaus into the report.
- IMCC
  - IMCC sponsored a benchmarking workshop on “Developing a Defensible CHIA” in August 11-12. Presenters developed concerns they had regarding the potential impacts related to the newly released proposed Stream Protection Rule.
  - IMCC has spent considerable time discussing bonding issues, particularly self-bonding, given the financial health of the coal industry and the declining coal market. Several conference calls have been held with the states to share information. IMCC has two surveys on its website regarding bonding activity in the states.
  - IMCC is holding its Mid-Year meeting in Santa Fe, NM from October 26-28 at La Fonda Hotel.
  - IMCC has been monitoring the budget and appropriations process on Capitol Hill. A CR was passed until December 11, 2015. The Senate Energy Commission is holding a meeting on October 27. A tentative meeting has been scheduled on November 18<sup>th</sup> regarding government reform and oversight.
  - IMCC is encouraged by the potential re-engagement of the TIPS and NTTP Steering Committees, which have proved to be very instrumental in guiding both training and technical services in the past. We understand that there may be a combined TIPS/NTTP Steering Committee, and IMCC has been working with OSMRE leadership to secure appointment of state representatives where needed.
- NAAML
  - The National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Programs (NAAML) held its annual conference from September 27-30 in Santa Fe, NM at La Fonda Hotel. Among the topics of discussion were an exemption from sequestration for AML mandatory payments (which the Office of Management and Budget recently denied, following a request by the states), reauthorization of fee collection

authority under Title IV of SMCRA, and the President's Power Plus Plan, in particular the abandoned mine land economic revitalization (AMLER) proposal. The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee recently approved a \$30 million pilot project for AML economic revitalization projects as part of the Interior Department funding bill for FY 2016.

Next Call – October 28, 2015