



Appalachian Region Technology Team Teleconference January 6, 2016

PARTICIPANTS:

John Carey, Maryland Bureau of Mines (MD BOM)
Michele Hamlin, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP)
Daniel Kestner, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (VA DMME)
Michael Richmond, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)
Paul Rothman, Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KY DNR)
Jeff Snyder, Maryland Bureau of Mines (MD BOM)
Jeff Trump, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)
Bill Winters, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)

TEAM DISCUSSION:

Stream Protection Rule (SPR) Update: OSMRE continues the process of categorizing SPR written comments. OSMRE hopes to finalize these comments within the next couple of weeks.

ARTT Meeting on Potential Applied Science Projects

Disclosure forms MUST be submitted to Mike Richmond before the proposals will be released. We have 28 proposals for review. We are looking at having a face to face meeting at Stonewall Resorts April 11-13, 2016. Mike Richmond will be sending out a letter for States personnel and an agenda will be sent to the States for out of State travel approval..

TEAM REPORTS:

PAUL ROTHMAN (KY):

- Matthew G. Bevin is the newly elected Governor of Kentucky.
- The new Secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet is Charles G. Snavely.
- Allen Luttrell is the newly appointed Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Natural Resources (DNR).

- The 2016 Kentucky legislative session begins today.

MICHELE HAMLIN (PA):

Pennsylvania has a partial budget in place. An increase in the PADEP budget was approved however it was less than the requested amount.

CHARLES STUREY (WV):

Having a Meeting with WVDNR to discuss the following

- Trout stream designation changes—which are equivalent to use changes and eschew more restrictive water quality standards. These changes are often based on the presence of non-native trout species.
- Mussel survey certification—the process to get qualified divers approved by the DNR is preclusive to professional scientists. Given the newly listed mussel species, this process needs streamlined.
- Elk Post Mining Land Use (PMLU) versus Bat PMLU—the need to preserve the entire state as contiguous old-growth forest is neither productive for the bats, including Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) or other native species. The PMLUs for Elk habitat can be a subset of post mining land use of Wildlife.
- Grants—Appalachian Stewardship Foundation is offering grants up to 50k for research projects focusing on tangible reclamation efforts.

JEFF TRUMP (OSM):

Next call will be February 1, 2016 at 1:30PM.