



## **Appalachian Region Technology Team Teleconference March 7, 2016**

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

John Carey, Maryland Bureau of Mines (MD BOM)  
Michele Hamlin, Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP)  
Ben McCament, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (OH DNR)  
Michael Richmond, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)  
Jeff Trump, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)  
Bill Winters, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)

### **TEAM DISCUSSION:**

The DRAFT agenda for the upcoming face to face meeting to be held at Stonewall in WV was discussed and will be finalized at the next teleconference call. Discussion was also held about having two ARTT meetings per year (one 3-day meeting/one 2-day meeting), one specifically for Applied Science projects rankings and States reports, and another meeting face to face to discuss in-depth ARTT events and States reports.

### **MIKE RICHMOND:**

**Stream Protection Rule (SPR) Update:** OSMRE continues the process of addressing SPR written comments. OSMRE is nearing completion of wording on the preamble and there will be substantive changes to the rules because of comments from the States.

### **ARTT Meeting on Potential Applied Science Projects**

We have 28 proposals for review. States personnel will be provided the Applied Science Project proposals via ShareFile. Team members have been provided with the proposals. Each State member will be reviewing these and have a ranking for the proposals for the face to face meeting to be held at Stonewall Resorts April 11-13, 2016. 1.2 Million dollars has been earmarked for the Applied Science Projects.

### **TEAM REPORTS:**

### **BILL WINTERS (TN)**

- The TN Lands Unsuitable for Mining (LUM) is addressing comments on this project.
- Cost recovery efforts will roll out-the rollouts do not affect the States.

### **JOHN CAREY (MD):**

- ARCH Coal Company has 9 permits but not mining any more coal. What they have been supplying will be marketable by other coal companies.
- There was discussion on coal ash regulations. Ohio has policy (guidelines), as well as PA and WV. MD has been writing regulations regarding coal ash OSMRE says that he writings are wrong and MD is responding to comments.
- Industry is down –permitting is slow and reclamation is problematic. Many are being laid off.

### **MICHELE HAMLIN (PA):**

PA DEP is working to implement electronic submission of discharge monitoring reports within the mining program.

### **BEN MCCAMENT (OH):**

- Coal production is down in the State of OH.
- Title IV and V EPA and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are trying to develop standardized guidelines for stream mitigation for remining and off-site for AML reclamation. Ohio EPA taking the lead as the facilitator. EPA and USACE are considering allowing stream mitigation credits for remining areas where hydrology is restored on site or water quality improvements are measured downstream off site.

### **CHARLES STUREY (WV):**

- WV legislation is proposing doing away with the Office of Explosives and Blasting (OEB)
- WV legislation is proposing to do away with Surface Water Runoff Analysis (SWROA)
- WV legislature is also proposing reducing coal severance taxes.

### **MINE MAP DISCUSSION: Team Discussion**

IMCC says there are dollars for mine mapping of deep mine maps. Deep Mine maps-some States get money for this and others do not. States have to compete for digitizing of mine mapping. Old maps that are being digitized are “hit and miss”.

### **JEFF TRUMP (OSM):**

The next scheduled call will be Apr 4, 2016 at 1:30PM.