



Appalachian Region Technology Team Teleconference April 3, 2017

PARTICIPANTS:

John Carey, Maryland Bureau of Mines (MD BOM)
Daniel Kestner, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (VA DMME)
Ben McCament, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (OH DNR)
Chad Paronish, PA Department of Environmental Protection
Jeff Ream, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)
Jeff Snyder, Maryland Bureau of Mines (MD BOM)
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Richard Wahrer, Kentucky Department of Natural Resources (KY DNR)
Bill Winters, Office of Surface Mining, Appalachian Regional Office (OSM ARO)

JEFF REAM (OSMRE):

- Jeff updated the team on the Internal Control Audit for the Applied Science program. OSMRE is working on flow charts and once the project is finalized, we can identify and make corrective actions. There is no approved funding in place for FY'17. Funding for applied science projects is dependent upon Congressional approval for funding in subsequent years.
- Jeff also gave an update on the progress of the AMD Treat rewrite effort, and reported that there will be a joint meeting between OSMRE and USGS at the end of April. The team is developing a new user interface model, adding updated modules that reflect new water treatment technologies, and recoding into a software language supported by Microsoft.

TEAM REPORTS:

BILL WINTERS (TN):

Tennessee has a perspective buyer from the State of KY for Alpha permits.

RICHARD WAHRER (KY):

- There have been transfers of Alpha permits to Revelation.
- Kentucky has received its Oversight report from OSMRE from 2015 on LTT bonding. Most of the deficiencies have already been corrected.
- KY is currently reviewing the 2018 OSMRE/DNR Performance Agreement. DNR believes that all oversight studies should be joint adventures with DNR always present when OSMRE is on Kentucky minesites.
- Arbor Day was held in Pulaski County in Southern Kentucky on April 1, 2017. Boy scouts, University of Kentucky, Berea College, ARRI, and Green Forest Works. Over 2,000 trees were planted. ARRI also had a table presenting the benefits of the Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA).
- The Energy and Environment Cabinet, which includes Kentucky DNR held an Arbor Day ceremony on April 7, 2017, hosted by the KY Division of Forestry

BEN MCCAMENT (OH):

- OH GIS staff and inspectors are using Panasonic Tough Pads in the field. They have been using ARC-PAD application for mobile GIS but ARC-PAD is no longer supported by ARC-GIS and we are experiencing multiple problems with software and applications. GIS staff built a new app using the ArcGIS Software Developers Kit that is mobile –easy to use with GIS and Toughpads. Next step is to build application for use with AMLIS data collection. Full implementation is expected sometime this fall/winter

Construction of Phase I for the new mine safety training facility in Cadiz, OH has been completed. This was for the mine simulation phase. Phase II is in process which will consist of classrooms and training space.

JEFF SNYDER (MD):

- Arch-Vindex has finalized their transfers of remaining operations into LLC's. The last active operation with mineable reserves was transferred to another operator. All remaining Arch permits are in the process of achieving final reclamation status with no future anticipated production.
- MD will be requesting bids in the future on a contract for aerial drone surveying of all our permitted mine sites.

April 3, 2017 was the date for MD Mining Programs Arbor Day event. Students from two local high schools participated in the planting of 1,800 trees on a reclaimed surface mine site.

DANIEL KESTNER (VA):

- Virginia's annual Arbor Day celebration will be held Apr 27th at a former gob pile reclamation site. Students have been invited from Russell County schools to plant trees

and participate in educational sessions about reclamation. There is easy access to the sight and plenty of planting areas.

- An Engineer conference was held on March 30, 2017 for 150 people.
- Legislation is being sponsored for RECLAIM by Hal Rogers and Mitch McConnell.

CHAD PARONISH (PA):

- In the first quarter of 2017, the Cambria District Mining Office issued 6 new coal surface mining permits (we don't review deep mine permits in our office, and I don't currently have any statewide data for this time period), none of the 6 issued in the first quarter 2017 included re-mining. In addition, there are also currently 4 new coal surface mining permit applications under review in the Cambria District Mining Office.
- Pennsylvania is currently in the midst of a transition to ePermitting. This involves two distinct phases. The first of which, ePermitting, is built to accommodate the new coal surface mining permit application (this system will be upgraded to handle more applications such as renewals and revisions in the future), this system went live in February, we are still awaiting our first official electronic application submittal. The second phase, WMS (Water Management System), will be built to accommodate the required water monitoring that permittees must submit. This system is still under construction will a target date to go live in the latter part of this year. The ePermitting system will build and issue mining permits while the WMS system will build and issue NPDES permits. There is currently a draft version of WMS which is being tested by a group of DEP employees.

The next scheduled ARTT teleconference call will be held on May 1, 2017 at 1:30PM.