



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor

Sara Parker Pauley, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 6, 2011

To: Land Reclamation Commission

From: Michael Mueller, Chief (*Original Signed By Michael Mueller*)
Permits, Contracts and Design Unit

Subject: AML Status Update

Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Reclamation Projects:

HARRISBURG/THORNHILL

Construction at the Harrisburg/Thornhill Reclamation Project was completed on July 29, 2011 at a final cost of \$1,299,448.70. This project reclaimed 75 acres of abandoned coal mine lands located about 20 miles north of Columbia near Harrisburg, Missouri. All areas have been limed, fertilized and seeded to stabilize the sites from erosion. The original completion date for this project was May 9, 2011; however, extremely wet site conditions during the winter and spring of 2011 extended construction activities into the summer. This project reclaimed approximately 75 acres of poorly vegetated and eroding mine spoils; including excavating and burying coal waste, grading and recontouring the areas to eliminate spoil piles and embankments, eliminating acid pit impoundments, mitigating acid mine seeps, and revegetating the site with either warm or cool season grasses to enhance wildlife area habitat.

MONTROSE BADLANDS RECLAMATION PROJECT

Approximately 75% of the earthmoving and grading activities are complete. All of the critical work including backfilling the highwall, hauling and covering the coal waste, and construction of the dam are complete. The contractor is currently on schedule to complete construction by November 4, 2011. As the final grades are approved, the contractor will commence with liming and ripping the site in preparation of seeding. This project will reclaim an estimated 35 acres of abandoned coal mine land near Montrose, Missouri. Upon completion, the site will be seeded with a green cover crop to add organic matter to the developing soil and to control erosion.

HIGHLAND HIGHWALL RECLAMATION PROJECT

Design of the Highland Highwall Reclamation Project is complete. Bids for this project were opened on August 11, 2011 and the Missouri Office of Administration is currently working with the apparent low bidder to obtain the insurance, performance bond and other documentation necessary to award the contract. This project will reclaim approximately 85 acres in efforts to eliminate an extremely dangerous highwall that is located immediately adjacent to a county gravel road. Additionally, dangerous piles and embankments will be graded and revegetated to control erosion. This site is located near Calhoun, Missouri in Henry County. The estimated cost of construction is roughly \$3/4 to \$1 million.

LITTLE TIPPLE RECLAMATION PROJECT

The AML staff reviewed and approved the conceptual design for this project. Comments were sent to the consultant and Triad Environmental Services is now working to complete the preliminary design. This project will eliminate the health and safety hazards associated with one long wall and an endwall that are situated immediately adjacent to a county gravel road in southwestern Bates County. The current estimated cost of construction is roughly \$300,000 to \$500,000.

LESTER DAVIS RECLAMATION PROJECT

Allgeier Martin and Associates, Inc., of Joplin, Missouri has submitted the preliminary design drawings for the Lester Davis Reclamation Project located in southwestern Barton County. The AML Staff is currently reviewing these detailed plans and specifications and working to draft comments to send to the consultant. This project will eliminate the health and safety hazards associated with several highwalls and pits located on both public and private lands. The estimated cost of construction is roughly \$600,000 to \$800,000.

ARDATH HIGHWALLS RECLAMATION PROJECT

The AML staff has initiated the preliminary design and development of the Ardath Highwalls Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Project located in western Barton County. Reclamation of this site will eliminate an extremely dangerous highwall and pit that is located immediately adjacent to a county gravel road. After final grading, all disturbed areas will be revegetated with a mixture of warm-season grasses or cool-season grasses and legumes for livestock pasture.

MAINTENANCE

In early September 2011, several large erosion gullies at the completed West Montrose Reclamation Project were regraded and armored with riprap stone. This work was done in preparation of conducting the final permanent seed planting at this site. The final seeding of cool-season grass/legumes will be planted in September 2011.

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