



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor

Sara Parker Pauley, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

Date: July 11, 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

The Harrisburg Reclamation Project is nearing completion. Warm season grasses were planted on 26 acres in early May 2011. Approximately 50 acres of a cool season grasses/legume mix have also been seeded, mulched and crimped at other locations of the project. All lime has been applied and incorporated and rip-rap swales are completed at all areas. Highly erodible areas have been addressed with silt fence, straw bales and erosion fabric. As of the last pay estimate (#9), \$1,092,860.41 has been paid out to the contractor, C.L. Richardson of Ashland, Missouri. The original contract was for \$1,217,669.00, and to date change orders have added an additional \$53,538.00 to the cost of the project. Change orders have included, but are not limited to additional clearing and grading outside the construction limits, removal of an additional safety feature (dangerous highwall), discovery and remediation of buried coal waste, installation of french drains to correct several seeps, installation of erosion blankets, and a change to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer nationwide permit 33 allowing the installation of a culvert to create a permanent stream crossing. Consultant cost for the project was contracted at \$200,665.00 with \$11,073.00 remaining in their budget since the last invoice.

This project was designed to reclaim approximately 75 acres associated with four work areas of abandoned coal strip mine lands located near Harrisburg, Missouri, in both Boone and Howard Counties. The scope of work for this project includes 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 reduce erosion and to enhance wildlife area habitat.



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MONTROSE BADLANDS RECLAMATION PROJECT

Hale Fencing and Bobcat Service, LLC, of Henley, Missouri, was given Notice to Proceed with the Montrose Badlands Reclamation Project on May 20, 2011. The contract for this project was awarded in the amount of \$464,122.50. To date, the contractor completed approximately 25% of the earthmoving activities. The highwall along the county road has been backfilled to make that part of the road safe. Approximately 75% of the coal waste has been excavated and hauled to the coal waste disposal area. Upon approval that all of the coal waste has been moved, the contractor will proceed with covering the coal waste with a minimum of four-feet of suitable cover material. The base of the dam has been filled and compacted across the existing pit. The contractor is now working to bring the dam up to the proposed elevations. This project will reclaim an estimated 35 acres of abandoned coal mine land near Montrose, Missouri. Reclamation is being completed 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 clogged stream lands will be mitigated. Upon completion, the site will be revegetated to control erosion.

HIGHLAND HIGHWALL RECLAMATION PROJECT

Design of the Highland Highwall Reclamation Project is complete. The design has been submitted to the Missouri Office of Administration for review, prior to bidding. 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 \$0.75 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 the 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 \$300,000.00 to \$500,000.00.

LESTER DAVIS RECLAMATION PROJECT

Allgeier Martin & Associates, Inc., of Joplin, Missouri, has submitted the conceptual design drawings for the Lester Davis Reclamation Project located in southwestern Barton County. The AML Staff has reviewed the design and are 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. Additionally, the LRP staff is working with the Office of Surface Mining to characterize the water quality of the site to determine the potential for acid mine drainage mitigation. The estimated cost of construction is roughly \$600,000.00 to \$800,000.00.

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 June 2011, a third cover crop consisting of German Millet was planted and fertilized on approximately 60 acres at the West Montrose Reclamation Project. Final permanent seeding consisting of cool-season grasses/legumes is planned for Fall 2011. Some additional maintenance will need to be completed prior to this final seeding. This will be necessary to eliminate some rills and gully's which have developed prior to the first vegetative stand taking hold. The Landowner is planning on utilizing this reclaimed land for grazing his cattle.

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