

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

November 10, 2010

1:00 – 2:00 PM Central Time

Participants

AR – Lois Uranowski, Arielle Avishai, **David Lane**

HDQ – **Steve Sheffield, Josh Rockwell**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines, Ann Walker

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – **Dave Berry**

NAAMLTP – **John Koerth**

Attendees in **Bold**

WR Report

- The Western Region Technology Transfer is preparing for the upcoming **ASMR conference in Bismarck, North Dakota**; June 12-16, 2011. One of the highlights will be a Bond Release workshop. The Western Region Technology Transfer will hold its annual meeting at the conference

MCR Report

- **Protecting Threatened Bats at Coal Mines. August 31-Sept 3, 2010 Charleston, WV.** 86 forum and 72 field trip participants. Currently working on the proceedings.
- **Ohio State University CCB Research** – OSU is working on securing the permit for the high-volume FGD gypsum demo project near Conesville power plant of AEP. Placement of FGD gypsum is expected to begin in late summer or early fall. Background monitoring is already in progress.
- **EPA CCR Rulemaking** – EPA published its proposed rule on June 21, 2010 on regulating CCR landfills and impoundments. OSM was officially given the lead on mine placement. EPA has defined minefilling as pertaining only to coal mining. EPA announced a 60 day extension of the comment period to November 19, 2010.
- **MCR Natural Stream Design (NSD) Workshop:** A steering committee consisting of members from OSM, Illinois and Indiana program staff, Corps of Engineers, industry, and academia are developing a workshop exploring the unique nature and challenges of reclaiming streams in the Midwest. This three day event will take place May 17-19, 2011 in Mt Vernon, IL and will include field visits to stream restoration sites in Southern Illinois and Southwestern Indiana. More information can be found at:
<http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov/NTTMainSite/Events/importantevents.shtm>

AR Report:

- The **ARTT conducted the monthly teleconference** on November 1, 2010. Mr. Lighty of PA was attending a workshop and could not participate. All other representatives were present. Kentucky is taking part in reviewing the Stream Protection EIS and find that the

document needs a great deal of editing/correcting. The Tennessee Federal Program reported that the State of Tennessee submitted a Lands Unsuitable for Mining Petition for 160,000+ acres in the Northern Tennessee coal field.

- The Team discussed sponsoring one **technology transfer workshop in 2011**. Topics discussed were (1) Stream/Loss, (2) AOC Modeling and (3) Determining sediment depths using a Humminbird depth finder.

NTTP Report

- **NTTP 2011 course schedule** is available on the OSM website and has been distributed to the training contacts.
- The **Pilot of the "Acid Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden"** course was held October 19-22 in Carbondale, Illinois. This new course is designed to upgrade technical skills in the critical aspects of acid-forming material geology/mineralogy and weathering and its impacts on reclamation planning and mitigation of mine soil problems.
- A special session of the **Coal Field Communications Course** was presented October 26-28 in Hazard, Kentucky
- The **"Orientation Course"** for new OSM employees was held November 2-5 in Washington, DC & Maryland with 25 new OSM employees participating.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- Steve Sheffield has taken over for John Craynon as the Headquarter team representative.
- The draft **FY'11 UGMM Solicitation** has been developed and is being reviewed by the UGMM Steering Committee members.
- During the week of November 15th, **mass mailing distribution of the FY'11 UGMM Solicitation** will be made. All Title IV/V, prior PIs, etc. will be sent hardcopies of the solicitation.
- **UGMM Proposals** are due back to OSM February 4th.

TIPS Report

- TIPS has just released the **training schedule for 2011**. The classes have been reduced from 27 to 20 to accommodate OSM's travel funding reduction. NTTP has reduced their classes as well. The schedule can be accessed on the TIPS website at www.tips.osmre.gov.
- TIPS personnel are working with the CIO's office in Headquarters to get administrative logins on OSM's new Windows 7 operating system so that TIPS personnel can assist state, tribal, and OSM offices with their TIPS applications. The CIO's office is restricting administrative logins on the Windows 7 operating system in response to Inspector General requirements dealing with increased security on federal systems. TIPS and the CIO's office have reached an agreement on a system that we believe can work for TIPS to provide the assistance needed.

IMCC Report

- The **recent national and state elections** will have significant impacts in the way we do business from both a regulatory and institutional perspective. We will likely begin to see several oversight and other investigatory actions in the House, as the Republican majority

flexes its newfound muscle. IMCC has seen several gubernatorial changes, which could impact state representation and priorities for action. At IMCC's recent Mid-Year meeting, there was considerable discussion about funding for state travel to OSM training classes offered by NTTP and TIPS. IMCC will work with OSM to provide information and data regarding state staff turnovers related to retirements and other governmental decisions on hiring.

- IMCC continues to explore the potential for **future benchmarking workshops** with OSM. Hot topics include: 1) development and application of state narrative water quality standards for surface coal mining permits under SMCRA and the Clean Water Act and 2) enhanced financial assurance mechanisms for long-term or sensitive surface coal mining and reclamation operations, such as acid mine drainage and stream restoration/protection.

WEIB Report

- WIEB continues to coordinate with IMCC on multiple national oversight and funding issues.

NAAML P Report

- 2011 NAAML P **Winter Business Meeting**. Feb 21 – 23, 2011. Orange Beach, Alabama. Hosted by Alabama AML. Reservations: www.perdidobeachresort.com or 800-634-8001 KEYWORD Alabama AML.
- 2011 NAAML P **Annual Conference**. October 9-12, 2011. Olympic Valley, California (Squaw Valley/Tahoe area). "The Gold and Silver States – the Legacy of Mining that Built the West." Conference will be jointly hosted by California and Nevada AML programs. Conference tours will include AML sites in both California and Nevada. For information on California and Nevada AML programs check these web links: www.consrv.ca.gov/OMR/abandoned_mine_lands/index.htm ; minerals.state.nv.us

Exhibit Schedule

The following is the current OSM exhibits planned for the calendar year 2010.

- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2010 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **at 1 PM Central Time, January 4, 2011.**