

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM
MEETING SUMMARY

August 16, 2011

1:00 – 2:00 PM Central Time

Participants

NTTT Executive Sponsor - **Erv Barchenger**

AR – Arielle Avishai, David Lane, **Eric Perry**

HDQ – Steve Sheffield, **Josh Rockwell, Li Tai Balboa**

MCR – **Kimery Vories** (Team Leader)

WR – **Duane Matt**

TIPS – **Lou Hamm**

NTTP – Sarah Donnelly, Tom Hines

IMCC – **Greg Conrad**

WEIB – Dave Berry

NAAMLTP – John Koerth

Attendees in **Bold**

WR Report

- The in-situ coal mining team (now renamed to the **in-situ processing workgroup**) will have a meeting on September 20th, 2011. The meeting will consist of members from all western states/tribes, IMCC with presentations coming from industry and academia.
- The **Brasscap electronic permitting tracking program**, developed by Colorado and implemented by Montana via collaboration between the two states may now be implemented throughout the western region. A meeting to discuss this program will be held in Helena, MT at the end of the month.
- Duane held a meeting with Delva Martinez (OSM computer specialist/web designer) to discuss changing the **Western Region portion of the NTTT website**. This evolved into possibly changing ALL of the **NTTT website**. Duane and Delva met with Lou Hamm to discuss the implementation of this plan. Lou suggested getting concurrence from the NTTT web developer (Karrie Bernhard). Duane has contacted Karrie and is moving forward with the website redevelopment.
- The western region is coordinating the **booth for the NAAMLTP**. Henry Austin will coordinate with all of the OSMRE regions and put together the booth materials and have them sent to the meeting site. All regions are sending personnel to the meeting who will in turn, staff the booth.
- Duane recently attended **FLIR infrared camera training**. He plans on implementing a quick course on how to use the FLIR by posting a quick tutorial on OSMRE e-learning website. Duane will work with Veronika Eskova on this project.

MCR Report

- **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 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 comment period ended November 19, 2010. Will not publish in 2011. Will initiate a new round of public comment.
- **OSM CCR Rulemaking**- Work is progressing on revising the 2008 proposed rule and the environmental assessment.
- **MCR Natural Stream Design (NSD) Workshop**: Working on making a webinar on the event available on the Web.
- **MCR AML Mitigation Workshop**: Based on a survey of the MCR states, there are 20-21 state staff that would participate in an NTTP AML Drilling and Grouting Class taught in one of the MCR states. NTTP is looking into making this happen in 2012.

AR Report:

- The **Fall ARTT meeting** will be held at the Stonewall Resort in Roanoke, West Virginia September 20 through 22, 2011. The ARTT members provided suggested topics. An agenda has been developed with presentations from Applied Science PI's, NTTP, TIPS, and OSM reports on technical issues.
- Cheryl Socotch is the new ARTT member from Ohio. Eric will be finishing his term acting for Lois on Aug 26th. Ken Eltschlager will take over through December.

NTTP Report

- NTTP **2012 Needs Survey** responses were discussed with the NTTP Steering Committee at their meeting July 27-28. There were 1,489 requests for NTTP training for next year.
- The new **Acid-Forming Materials: Soils and Overburden** class was held on July 19-22 in Evansville, Indiana. The students responded very favorably to the course with a 100% approval rating.
- NTTP rescheduled the **Advanced Blasting: Investigation and Analysis** course from July to the week of September 20. The Blasting and Inspection class originally scheduled for that September time slot will be held next Fiscal Year with the dates yet to be determined.
- NTTP is currently working on filling two **course coordinator positions** and has posted the third position. This will complete the filling of those vacancies left by retirements and promotions.

HEADQUARTERS Report

- In June the CLT approved the **funding for 21 UGMM projects** (includes severable portions) in the amount of \$663k.
- I have recently been contacted by three different state entities stating that they had not yet been contacted by a Grants Financial Specialist with regard to developing their cooperative agreement. I am investigating this issue.
- I am currently working with IMCC/MSHA/and various UGMM experts to develop the **UGMM Benchmarking Workshop** that will take place in February or March of 2012.

- Mick Kuhns join HQ Division of Regulatory Support from the Wilkes Barre Area Office.

TIPS Report

- The **GeoMine pilot project** has been funded to provide scanners, plotters, and technical personnel to the four pilot project states. This funding will enable the four states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia to begin entering coal mining information into the pilot project database so that a geo-database of coal mining information will begin to take shape.
- TIPS will conduct a meeting of all **TIPS Service Managers** in October. The meeting will enable Service Managers to develop a process for providing TIPS services and assistance to TIPS users nationwide. The location and exact dates have not yet been set, but it will take place on the third or fourth week of October.
- A TIPS **ArcGIS class** is underway this week in Denver, instructed by Deb Bell of Colorado and Aldo Plascencia of OSM's Denver office.
- TIPS is expanding the availability of technology equipment to TIPS users by purchasing **new laser survey equipment**. And, Duane Matt has attended training on the use of the FLIR Thermal Cameras that TIPS loans to SMCRA users nationwide. This advanced Training will enable Duane to pass on new techniques for the use of these advanced thermal imaging cameras.

IMCC Report

- IMCC is moving forward with the development of its next **benchmarking workshop** on underground mine mapping. A conference call of the steering committee is scheduled for August 17. Committee members include representatives from the states, OSM and MSHA – many of whom are on OSM's Underground Mine Mapping Steering Committee. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for the Pittsburgh area in early 2012.
- On August 3, IMCC participated in a stakeholders outreach meeting with OSM to discuss the development of OSM's proposed rule on **mine placement of coal combustion residues**. IMCC will follow up with a discussion document regarding mine placement regulations from the states' perspective.
- At last week's **OSM/States western regional meeting**, there was considerable interest expressed in the development of e-permitting programs for the states. MT will host a meeting on the topic the week of August 30th in Helena, which is open to all of the western states. IMCC offered to host follow up workshops on the matter should the states so request.

WEIB Report

- No one on the call

NAAML P Report

- 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. Call for papers has closed and conference planning is progressing. For information:

http://naamlp.net/2011_conference/main.htm

Applied Science Report

The Director has authorized funding for four more 2010 applied science projects.

- Predicting TDS Release from Central Appalachian Coal Mine Spoils: Dr. Lee Daniels: Virginia Tech
- TROMPE From the Past Will Come the Future: Stream Restoration Inc.
- Stream Restoration - Long Term Performance: Jack Nawrot: Southern Illinois University
- Improved sulfate-reducing bioreactors for the remediation of high total dissolved solids drainage associated with coal mining and processing in the U.S.: Dr. Liliana Lefticariu: Southern Illinois University

Exhibit Schedule

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

- NASLR Annual Meeting, The Resort at Glade Springs in Daniels, WV, September 25-28, 2011 by AR
- TAMU Surface Mining & Reclamation Workshop, College Station, TX October 6-7, 2011 by MCR
- NAAML P Annual Meeting Olympic Valley, CA October 9-12, 2011 by WR
- TMRA Annual Meeting, TX, October 2011, by MCR
- ISMR Jasper, IN December, 2011 by MCR

Next conference call will take place **at 1 PM Central Time, October 5, 2011.**