

**MEETING SUMMARY  
MCR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TEAM  
STEERING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL**

DATE: **April 9, 2008**  
TIME: 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM CST

ATTENDEES:

Alabama AML:

Alabama Surface Mining:

Arkansas Mining Division: **Greg Melton, Wayne Van Buren**

Illinois Office of Mines and Minerals:

Illinois AML: **Larry Lewis**

Indiana Division of Reclamation: **John Richardson**

Indiana AML: **Marvin Ellis**

Iowa Mining and Minerals Bureau:

Kansas Surface Mining Section: **Tim Wilson, Murray Balk**

Louisiana Injection and Mining Division:

Mississippi Mining and Reclamation Division:

Missouri Land Reclamation Program:

Oklahoma AML:

Oklahoma Department of Mines:

Texas Mining and Reclamation Division:

OSM MCR: **Kimery Vories, Nick Grant**

OSM BFO:

OSM TFO:

OSM IFO:

**Significant updates in bold italics**

1. **OSM CCB Rulemaking** The ANPR was published March 14, 2007. *OSM plans to have the proposed rule published in June of 2008.*
2. **Applied Science Process.** The OSM 2008 Applied Science Project solicitation closed January 2, 2008. A total of 44 proposals totaling \$5.6 million were received by OSM, with 4 from the Mid-Continent Region, 9 from the Western Region, and 31 from the Appalachian Region. There were 10 reforestation, 9 revegetation, 5 hydrology, and 3 AMD and slope stability proposals with the remainder concerning mine pools, blasting, erosion control, environmental impacts, endangered species, coal combustion byproducts, coal mine fires, and information systems. OSM management made the decision on April 8 to fund 11 projects for a total of \$1,517,014. The successful applicants included:

ST	PI and Project Title	Institution	OSM \$	Total \$
CO	<b>R. Musselman <i>The Use of commercial weed fabric and irrigation to enhance growth and survival of aspen and serviceberry on reclaimed surface mine lands</i></b>	USDA Forest Service	\$90,935	\$181,153
GA	<b>V. Ibeanusi <i>Assessment of Environmental Impacts in Coal Mining Sites Using a Predictive GIS-based Environmental Mining</i></b>	<i>MHEI - Spelman College</i>	\$172,014	\$229,367

	<b>Decision Support System (EMDSS)</b>			
IL	<b>R. Dunker A System to Evaluate Prime Farmland Reclamation Success Based on Spatial Soil Properties</b>	University of Illinois	\$113,583	\$180,359
KY	<b>R. Sweigard Field Investigation of Best Practices for Steep-Slope Mine Reclamation Employing the Forestry Reclamation Approach</b>	University of Kentucky Research Foundation	\$199,927	\$271,108
OH	<b>S. Kell RBDMS for Water Online: Providing Coal Operators and Their Laboratories Data Review and Reporting Capabilities via Web-enabled Water Quality Database/GIS and Providing On-demand Water Quality Data to the Public</b>	Ohio DNR, Div of Mineral Resource Management	\$200,000	\$326,060
TN	<b>E. Drumm Reforestation of Steep Reclaimed Slopes: Stability and Sediment Control Considerations</b>	The University of Tennessee	\$199,682	\$244,001
TN	<b>J. Franklin Reforestation of Steep Reclaimed Slopes in Appalachia: Forest Establishment and Function</b>	The University of Tennessee	\$170,616	\$230,293
VA	<b>J. Burger Establishing Hardwood Forests with American Chestnut using Forestry Reclamation Approach: Effects of Grading Practices and Ground Cover</b>	VA Polytechnic Institute & State University	\$86,749	\$129,635
VA	<b>R. Paris American Chestnut Restoration on Surface Mines Sites in the Appalachian Region</b>	The American Chestnut Foundation	\$200,000	\$339,661
WV	<b>J. Skousen Hardwood Tree Growth Using the Forestry Reclamation Approach in West Virginia</b>	West Virginia University	\$36,588	\$969,793
WV	<b>E. Pena-Yewtukhiw Determination of Soil Hydrologic Group for Mined Soils Under Forestry Reclamation Approach in Appalachia</b>	West Virginia University	\$45,482	\$67,838

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by mail early in April. Successful applicants will be contacted by the OSM grants specialist in the appropriate OSM region in the process of developing a cooperative agreement to fund the project.

3. **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held the summer of 2009 in Charleston, WV with a half day field trip and a two and half day forum.
4. **CCB Placement at Mines.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held during the last half of July 2009 in Morgantown, WV with a full day field trip and two day forum.
5. **Geomorphic Reclamation.** The steering committee is continuing planning for a forum to be held during the last half of April 2009 in Bristol, VA with a full day field trip and two day forum.

6. **Reforestation** – *The MCR is planning to hold two meetings (Terre Haute, IN June 25 & Austin, TX July 22) this summer with Midwestern states and reforestation professionals on the applicability of the FRA to Midwestern States. The meetings will be by invitation and will have about 15-18 participants each.*
7. **Ohio State University CCB Research** – MCR has been working with the OSM CCB regional team at the request of OSU to begin cooperating on an Ohio CCB research initiative to conduct case studies on the use of FGD in mine reclamation. The letter of intent for OSM to provide technical assistance with this effort was mailed 1/17/2008. Ohio has made the decision to fund the research.
8. **ASMR Annual Meeting June 16-18, 2008** in Richmond, Va. OSM will be a gold level sponsor and exhibitor. Kim Vories will be giving a talk on the Indiana Bat and Paul Behum will be presenting a paper on the design of a passive AMD treatment system for the Enos Coal Refuse site in Indiana.
9. **Larry Lewis** reported that the **AML AMD work group** is planning for the next MCR AMD workshop. It will be located in Fort Smith AR September 22-23, 2008. The Holiday Inn has been contracted as the meeting place for the event. The program and registration information has just been released. Please register as soon as possible.
10. **Murray Balk** asked for an update on what OSM was doing about replacing the Aqua Chem software. Debbie Dale of the Hydrology Team prepared an update which is attached to this e-mail.
11. **Tim Wilson** requested OSM guidance on implementation of a new Federal Regulation by EPA/Corp of Engineers on wetland mitigation by SRA AML projects. This request has been passed on to OSM management. The Web access to this rule was received by Tim Wilson and passed on to the rest of the MCR TT team.
12. The new **OSM Technology Transfer Website** is a work in progress it can be accessed at [www.techtransfer.osmre.gov](http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov). or by going to the MCR website at [www.mcrcc.osmre.gov](http://www.mcrcc.osmre.gov) and under the Links list clicking on “NT<sup>3</sup> OSM Technology Transfer.”
13. **Next Conference Call** will be scheduled for May 20, 2008 at 10 AM CST.