

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

DATE: **May 20, 2008**  
TIME: 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM CDT  
ATTENDEES:  
Alabama AML:  
Alabama Surface Mining:  
Arkansas Mining Division: **Greg Melton**  
Illinois Office of Mines and Minerals:  
Illinois AML: **Larry Lewis**  
Indiana Division of Reclamation: **Todd Huff**  
Indiana AML: **Marvin Ellis**  
Iowa Mining and Minerals Bureau:  
Kansas Surface Mining Section: **Murray Balk**  
Louisiana Injection and Mining Division:  
Mississippi Mining and Reclamation Division: **Stan Thieling, Lonnie Barrier**  
Missouri Land Reclamation Program:  
Oklahoma AML:  
Oklahoma Department of Mines: **Tekleab Tsegay**  
Texas Mining and Reclamation Division:  
OSM MCR: **Kimery Vories**  
OSM BFO:  
OSM TFO:  
OSM IFO:

*Significant updates in bold italics*

**NEW THIS MONTH**

- 1. OSM CCB Rulemaking** The ANPR was published March 14, 2007. *OSM plans to have the proposed rule published July 10 of 2008.*
- 2. White Nose Syndrome** Hundreds of thousands of American bats, including at least five species, are dying from a mysterious condition. Referred to as White-Nose Syndrome (WNS), to date it has been reported from five states (New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania), reportedly killing up to 95% of the bats in several affected winter colonies. Entire species are potentially threatened if we cannot solve this puzzle. *There will be a special agency briefing and strategy session June 9-10 in Albany New York.*
- 3. Applied Science High Priorities for FY 2009** The Director of OSM has tasked each region to come up with two high priority applied science topics for FY 2009 by June 13. Proposals received under these topics will receive extra points in the selection process. In order to accomplish this, I am requesting that: (1) each team member, (2) each OSM regional office, and (3) the MCR office *provide your recommendation for the highest priority topic for the region for FY 2009 and send it to me ASAP by no later than May 23.* On May 27 I will send each of you the results of this effort. *On May 29 at 10 AM CDT we will have a*

*conference call and reach a consensus on the two highest priorities.* The conference call number is (877) 319-2035 with a pass code of 348477#.

- 4. 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. A dry run of the field trip will take place May 27. The NTTP program has agreed to provide funding to support the travel of MCR state staff who would not be able to attend without travel support. *Please contact Kim Vories if you need travel assistance.*

## **ONGOING EFFORTS**

- 5. Indiana Bat and Coal Mining Forum.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held the summer of 2009 in Charleston, WV with a full day field trip and a two day forum.
- 6. CCB Placement after new OSM CCB Rule Forum.** 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.
- 7. Geomorphic Reclamation Forum.** 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.
- 8. 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.***
- 9. 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. The first planning session was conducted May 9.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.” *Please visit the applied science page to view final reports for past projects.*
- 12. Next Conference Call** will be scheduled for July 1, 2008 at 10 AM CDT.