

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

DATE: **May 27, 2009**
TIME: 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM CDT
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:
Indiana AML:
Iowa Mining and Minerals Bureau:
Kansas Surface Mining Section: **Marlene Spence**
Louisiana Injection and Mining Division:
Mississippi Mining and Reclamation Division: **Stan Thieling, Lonnie Barrier**
Missouri Land Reclamation Program:
Oklahoma AML:
Oklahoma Department of Mines:
Texas Mining and Reclamation Division:
OSM MCR: **Kimery Vories, Len Meier**
OSM BFO:
OSM TFO:
OSM IFO:

Significant updates in bold italics

Wayne Van Buren reported that the NAAML P is still looking for papers for the upcoming annual meeting in Rogers AR September 28-30, 2009 as **they have 25 to date looking for 10 more**. Online registration should be available in early June. A pre-event float trip and mining tour is being planned. Contact Wayne or Tim Wilson for more details.

MCR States Meeting TT Panel Discussion Len Meier reported on the plans for the panel discussion. Murray Balk, Wayne Van Buren, Larry Lewis, and Stan Thieling have agreed to serve on the panel to try to address new priorities and directions for the technology transfer efforts for the region.

Larry Lewis reported for the AMD Workshop for April 2010 in Indiana. They are investigating possible field sites and meeting locations. Larry hopes to have plans for a date and meeting location on the next call. Contact Larry at (217) 524-6513 if you want to be involved in the planning of this event.

ONGOING EFFORTS

1. **OSM CCB Rulemaking** *OMB has returned the proposed rule to OSM with the instructions that it must be resubmitted for publication during the next administration.*
2. **2009 AML Conference will be September 24-30, 2009 in Rogers, AR**

3. **Applied Science Solicitation.** *Awaiting the decision by OSM CLT. Should be announced by early June. Final awards should be announced in July, 2009.*
4. **Indiana Bat Coordination Meetings** –This effort concerns improving consistency and effectiveness of protection and enhancement plans for Indiana Bats on SMCRA mine sites under the 1996 Biological Opinion. OSM members on the Working Group are Ian Dye and Craig Walker. State members are Tim Taylor from Indiana, Richard Wahrer from Kentucky and Bob Fala from West Virginia. *They plan to go public by mid 2009.*
5. **Indiana Bat and Coal Mining Forum.** The steering committee is planning for a forum to be held the summer of 2010 in Charleston, WV with a full day field trip and a two day forum.
6. **White Nose Syndrome.** *The white nose syndrome in bats has spread to at least 6 NE states. This issue is of great concern to USFWS as it has proved devastating to bat populations in caves that have become infected with the white fungus. It has the potential to effect T & E issues like the Indiana Bat and the Gray Bat in coal states. BCI predicts that WNS may be in the Midwest states by next winter.*
7. **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 2010 in Morgantown, WV with a full day field trip and two day forum following publication of a proposed rule.
8. **Geomorphic Reclamation Forum.** *There were 189 participants at the forum. On a scale of 1-5 the event was scored at 4.0 or very successful. The content of the forum was excellent. Differences of application between regions of the country were very evident emphasizing the importance of region specific workshops for future events. Plan to have the speaker PowerPoint's on the TT website in early June and have the proceedings published later this year.*
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. OSM is currently drafting and MOU for this effort.
10. **American Society of Mining and Reclamation (ASMR) Annual Meeting** – WR staff are actively involved in assisting the planning for the meeting June 2009 in Billings Montana. The AR staff will be the hosts in Pittsburgh, PA in 2010.
11. The new **OSM Technology Transfer Website** is a work in progress and can be accessed at www.techtransfer.osmre.gov. or by going to the MCR website at www.mcrcc.osmre.gov and under the Links list clicking on “NT³ OSM Technology Transfer.” *Please visit the applied science page to view final reports and Fact Sheets for past projects.*
12. **Next Conference Call** will be scheduled for July 23, 2009 at 10 AM CDT.