



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

286 Industrial Park Road
Ebensburg, PA 15931
November 25, 2008

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

814-472-1800

Peter Dalby
Mill Creek Coalition
221 Ponds View Lane
Marble, PA 16334

Re: Rem (Orchid/Smail) BF 302
Project ID: PA-211
Jefferson County

*This site is now covered
under the ABS -
Knoff M.O. & DEP in
Hansburg are to be
in charge of OM & R*

Dear Watershed Steward:

Following the landmark reauthorization of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) in late 2006, Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has continued to solicit public input on how best to utilize the increased funding coming to Pennsylvania for the reclamation of mine scarred lands and remediation of mine polluted waters. Among the input we have received is strong public support for providing increased funding for the operation and maintenance of acid mine drainage (AMD) treatment systems, and the need to better characterize the performance of those systems.

You have been identified as either the primary contact or the most knowledgeable person who can provide information about one or more of the nearly 300 publicly funded AMD treatment facilities constructed throughout Pennsylvania, and we would like to enlist your help. A database of publicly funded AMD treatment systems in Pennsylvania was constructed through prior efforts, in cooperation with the Office of Surface Mining. We need your help in expanding the information we already have for your system with additional data and other relevant documents. *(Should there be a more appropriate person to provide information for your treatment system, please pass this along to that person or forward to me that contact information.)*

The first area where we are requesting your assistance involves completing and verifying the accuracy of previously collected information for your treatment system on a form enclosed with this letter. Also, we are asking about the existence and availability of a variety of information regarding your system including, but not limited to, lab reports on water chemistry of the discharge and receiving stream and plans used in the construction of the system. We are asking you to provide copies of this information as well. If the information is available electronically, you can email it or copy it to a CD and mail it to my attention at the address provided below. If the information is available only in hard copy, you can mail it or contact me to make arrangements for us to pick it up. If requested, we can return originals to you once we copy or convert them to electronic format. This information will prove invaluable in the future

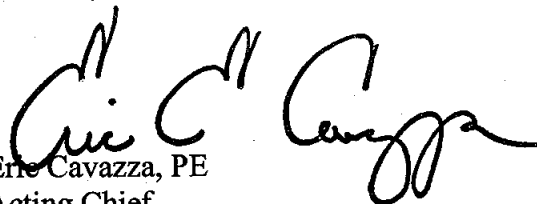
for evaluating and addressing operation and maintenance needs, for evaluating best available technologies, and for documenting all of the work that has been completed.

Your form has already been populated with information currently in the database. Please review that information and revise as necessary. Please fill out blank fields to the best of your ability. If you are unable to answer a question, simply leave the answer blank or mark "don't know" if appropriate. Return your completed form to me via e-mail (ecavazza@state.pa.us), fax (814-472-1839), or U.S. Mail (PA-DEP-BAMR, Cambria Office, 286 Industrial Park Road, Ebensburg, PA 15931-4119, attention: Eric Cavazza), whichever method is most convenient for you. We are asking you to submit the requested information by December 31 or to contact us and let us know when you can get us the information. Once we receive all of the information, DEP plans to convert everything to electronic format and make it available to the public via the internet. This information will benefit everyone working to eliminate the legacy of abandoned mine drainage problems by showcasing successes, minimizing failures, and allowing for better planning for the effective utilization of future funds and resources.

As a second phase of data collection for the publicly funded mine drainage treatment facilities, DEP will be partnering with the Western Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (WPCAMR) and Stream Restoration, Incorporated (SRI) to complete one or two snapshot samplings of as many of the treatment systems as possible. WPCAMR will be undertaking and funding this effort in conjunction with an existing Growing Greener Grant for sample analysis support for monitoring passive AMD treatment systems. The sampling events are being targeted for late winter (February or March 2009) and early summer (June 2009). WPCAMR and SRI will be developing the details and logistics for this project in the near future and may also solicit your assistance in this endeavor. All sample results obtained will be provided back to you for your use and for your records.

We thank you in advance for providing this very valuable information. If you have any questions or would like to make arrangements to have us pick up or copy all or some of your information, do not hesitate to contact me at 814-472-1844 or ecavazza@state.pa.us.

Sincerely,



Eric Cavazza, PE
Acting Chief

DEP-Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Division of Acid Mine Drainage Abatement

Enclosures

Publicly Funded Mine Drainage Treatment or Abatement Project Information Sheet
General Project Information

Project Name and or No.: REM (ORCHID/SMAIL) BF 302 PA-211
Location: Municipality and County: JEFFERSON
Watershed: LITTLE MILL CREEK
USGS Quadrangle: CORSICA
Latitude and Longitude: 41.215833000000003 -79.185833000000002

Contact Information

Contact Organization: MILL CREEK COALITION
Contact Person: PETER DALBY
Contact Address: 221 PONDS VIEW LANE
MARBLE
PA
16334
Contact Telephone Number: 8143932164
Contact Email: pdalby@clarion.edu

Organization Currently Responsible For Project Operations, Monitoring and Maintenance

Is this organization different from Contact Organization? True
Organization Name: _____
Organization Contact Name: _____
Organization Contact Address: _____
Organization Telephone Number: 0
Organization Email: _____

Site Information

Who owns the property the project is constructed upon?

Driving Directions to the Project Site (from an easily identifiable reference point):

Special instructions for entry to the site (gates, keys, notifications or permissions, etc.):

Is there a perpetual access agreement for monitoring and O&M?	Yes	or	No
Is the site readily accessible (by 2WD vehicle)?	Yes	or	No
Was project completed as part of an overall watershed restoration plan?	Yes	or	No
Is the plan available electronically?	Yes	or	No
Could you provide the DEP a copy of the plan?	Yes	or	No
Is a copy of the plan attached?	Yes	or	No

Publicly Funded Mine Drainage Treatment or Abatement Project Information Sheet
Project Description (Describe the treatment system including each individual component):

Pre-Construction Discharge Flow and Monitoring Data

Is data available electronically? Yes or No

In what format? Microsoft Excel ___ Access Database ___ Other(specify) _____

Indicate how flow was measured: _____

Indicate laboratory that analyzed samples (or whether field kits were used)

Could you provide this data to the DEP? Yes or No

Is a copy of the data attached? Yes or No

Pre-Construction Receiving Stream Flow and Monitoring Data

Is data available electronically? Yes or No

In what format? Microsoft Excel ___ Access Database ___ Other(specify) _____

Indicate how flow was measured: _____

Indicate laboratory that analyzed samples

Were any biological or fish surveys completed? Yes or No

Could you provide this data to the DEP? Yes or No

Is a copy of the data attached? Yes or No

Treatment System Design Information and Criteria

Who or what firm completed project design? (Include name, address, phone, email and contact person, if available): _____

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Are digital photographs of the site before, during and/or after construction available? Yes or No

Was there a Specific Restoration or Treatment Goal for this treatment system? Yes or No

If yes, please describe the goal: _____

What is the Design Flow Rate? _____

Other design criteria (retention time, acidity loading or removal rate, metals loading or removal rate, alkalinity generation rate, etc.) _____

Does the treatment system take all of the flow or is some of the flow bypassed?

Publicly Funded Mine Drainage Treatment or Abatement Project Information Sheet

Plans and Specifications:

As-Bid Project Drawings and Technical Specifications

Is this information available electronically? Yes or No
 Could you provide the DEP a copy of the plan? Yes or No
 Is a copy attached? Yes or No

As-Built Drawings

Is this information available electronically? Yes or No
 Could you provide the DEP a copy of the plan? Yes or No
 Is a copy attached? Yes or No

Construction and Project Funding Information

What year was the project constructed? 2005

When (specific date) did project construction begin? _____

When (specific date) was project construction completed? _____

Who was the Construction Contractor? (Name, Address, Phone, email, contact person)

When (specific date) did the treatment system go on-line? _____

Primary Funding Partners, and funding provided:

Source	True or false	Amount
Title IV, Appalachian Clean Streams	False	\$.00
PADEP Growing Greener	False	\$.00
10% AMD Set Aside Funds	False	\$.00
EPA Section 319	False	\$.00
OSM Watershed Cooperative Assistance Program	False	\$.00
NRCS	True	\$688,850.00
EPA Watershed Protection	False	\$.00
USCOE	False	\$.00
University	False	\$.00
Private/Foundation	False	\$.00

How or by whom was treatment system construction funded or other funding not included in the table?

Source	Amount
Reclamation in Lieu	\$.00
	\$.00

Post Construction Operation, Monitoring and Maintenance

Is there a Sampling and Monitoring Plan? Yes or No

Is the plan available electronically? Yes or No

Is a copy of the plan attached? Yes or No

Is treatment system currently being sampled and monitored? Yes or No

If so, by whom? _____

Approximately how many hours per year are spent doing O,M&M for this system? _____

Publicly Funded Mine Drainage Treatment or Abatement Project Information Sheet
Where are samples being analyzed? (Name, Address, Phone, email, contact person)

If DEP Lab is being used, what is the project ID and the Sample Information System (SIS) monitoring point IDs?

Is there an Operation and Maintenance Plan? Yes or No
Is the plan available electronically? Yes or No
Could you provide the DEP a copy of this information? Yes or No
Is a copy of the information attached? Yes or No

Comments on the treatment system: _____

Post- Construction Discharge Flow and Monitoring Data

Is the data available electronically? Yes or No
In what format? Microsoft Excel ___ Access Database ___ Other(specify) _____
Indicate how flow was measured: _____
Could you provide the DEP a copy of this information? Yes or No
Is a copy of the information attached? Yes or No

Post-Construction Receiving Stream Flow and Monitoring Data

Is the data available electronically? Yes or No
In what format? Microsoft Excel ___ Access Database ___ Other(specify) _____
Indicate how flow was measured: _____
Could you provide the DEP a copy of this information? Yes or No
Is a copy of the information attached? Yes or No
Were any biological or fish surveys that were completed on the receiving stream? Yes or No

Treatment System Maintenance and/or Rehabilitation

Has rehabilitation work been performed at the site? Yes or No
True(yes) or false(no): True

If yes, please list the rehabilitation activity. _____

If yes, please list the date of rehabilitation. 0

If yes, please list the rehabilitation cost. \$.00

What routine or non-routine maintenance issues have arisen since system was put online?

Publicly Funded Mine Drainage Treatment or Abatement Project Information Sheet
How was maintenance work funded?

What routine or non-routine maintenance is currently needed or anticipated in the next 1-3 years?

Other Comments

Person(s) Completing this Form (Name, Address, Phone, email, Date Completed):

Is there any other person, company or organization that should be contacted for information about this treatment system or the information requested in this form?
(Include Name, Address, Phone, email, etc):

Mill Creek Coalition
of
Clarion and Jefferson Counties

Alliance for Wetlands
and Wildlife

Conservation District
Clarion County

Conservation District
Jefferson County

Federation of Sportsmen
Clarion County

Federation of Sportsmen
Jefferson County

Iron Furnace Chapter
of Trout Unlimited

League of Women Voters
of Clarion County

Mill Creek Chapter
Nat'l Wild Turkey Fed.

Natural Resources
Conservation Services

Northwest Pennsylvania's
Great Outdoors Tourist
Promotion Agency

Seneca Rocks
Audubon Society

Peter Dalby
221 Ponds View Lane
Marble, PA 16334
February 5, 2009

Eric Cavazza, PE
Acting Chief
DEP-BAMR
Division of Acid Mine Drainage Abatement
286 Industrial Park Road
Ebensburg, PA 15931

Dear Eric:

Enclosed please find the forms you sent concerning the AMD treatment systems in the Mill Creek Watershed. We have filled them out as well as we could. In addition, we are including a copy of the PL83-566 plan approved for the watershed, an electronic copy of all the data in the Clarion University data base, and an electronic copy of the OM&R report prepared for most of the sites by the Dietz and Gourley. Most of the information, such as system schematics, water chemistry data and detailed plans for system rehabilitation are found in the Dietz and Gourley report, which was funded by a growing greener grant.

There are several comments that relate to all or most of these sites:

- The PL83-566 Mill Creek Watershed Plan was approved in 1999. It forms the basis for the recovery of the watershed.
- There has been some DEP data collected over the years throughout the watershed. It includes some seep data as well as stream data. The Knox DMO has done TMDL plans for the watershed.
- Clarion University collected extensive water quality data from the passive treatment systems as well as various stream segments for the period 1991-2006. That effort ceased with the retirement of Terry Morrow from the University.
- Funded by a Growing Greener Grant, a comprehensive OM & R report on most of these sites was prepared by Dietz-Gourley Consulting for the EADS Group.

Member of

Pennsylvania Organization for Watershed and Rivers

- For most of these sites the funding was handled by the Headwaters Charitable Trust or the Headwaters RC&D. They and/or the NRCS office in DuBois hold files on most of the systems, including easement documents, bid packages, design specification, blueprints, etc.
- The Mill Creek Coalition has files on most of these systems. Some are sketchy and other more complete.
- A report was done for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania. The report is titled: Watershed Scale Assessment of an Acid Mine Drainage Abatement Project in Clarion County. It was completed in 2002 and could be made available to you. It includes macroinvertebrate and fish data.
- We also have a final report for the FY97/98 319 Program produced in November, 2000. We can make it available if you want it.

Thank you for your interest in the Mill Creek Watershed and the efforts we have made to monitor the systems and streams. As you are aware, we have built a lot of passive treatment systems but have been unable to maintain and replace the systems properly. This also applies to three systems built in the watershed by BAMR. Hopefully, BAMR will be able to develop a comprehensive plan to this the effort going now that more money should be available from the re-enactment of the SMCRA legislation.

We are ready to assist with the next step. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Peter Dalby, President MCC