



**PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
TO CONDUCT RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES**
(Abandoned Mine Land Program)

IN THE MATTER OF: **JOSH BRANCH PORTAL PROJECT**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy, Division of Mined Land Reclamation, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to the authority granted in the Virginia Coal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1979 (Chapter 19, Article 4, Section 45.1-260 et seq.) with funding provided by the 2012 Consolidated Grant, has determined and found that:

Land located **off of Route 670, 1.1 miles north of the Aily community** in **Dickenson** County, Virginia, has been adversely affected by past coal mining practices, to wit:

1. Property owners, both known and unknown, are hereby notified of the Division's intention to reclaim the area adversely affected by past coal mining practices. The purpose of this Notice is to provide notice to any landowners, heirs, assigns and devisees who may be affected by the proposed reclamation and who have not been identified and who have not granted written consent.
2. The public health, safety and property is endangered by: **an open and accessible mine entry.**
3. The proposed action consists of:
 - a) Permanently sealing an open mine entry;
 - b) Establishing vegetation on all areas affected by this work;
 - c) Utilizing drainage and sediment control throughout the duration of this project.
4. Known property owner(s) in the area of the proposed reclamation are:

Teddy and Deborah Owens
Catherine Calo
Jacqueline Marie (Owens) Gilbert and Deborah (Willis) Owens
Jesse Counts

Division of Mined Land Reclamation
Notice of Intent to Enter (AML Program)

Based upon the above findings, the Commonwealth of Virginia, acting by and through the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, Division of Mined Land Reclamation, its agents, employees and contractors, gives notice that 30 days from this Notice being published in **The Dickenson Star**, and posted on the property, the Division will initiate and continue until the proposed work on the **Josh Branch Portal Project** is complete, and shall do all things necessary and expedient to protect the public health, safety and general welfare. Such entry shall not be construed as an act of condemnation of property nor of trespass thereon.

For further information contact the Division of Mined Land Reclamation at the following address:

Attention: AML Section
VA Dept. of Mines, Minerals & Energy
P. O. Drawer 900
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

The telephone number is (276) 523-8206.

This notice can also be found on the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's website: <http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/PublicMeetings/PublicNotices.shtml>

DATE 8/14/14 BY Randy Casey
Division Director