



**PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
TO CONDUCT RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES**

(Abandoned Mine Land Program)

IN THE MATTER OF: **PANHANDLE ROAD PORTALS 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 **approximately 1.5 miles SE of Lovers Gap off of Rt. 83** in **Buchanan** 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: **open mine entries that are easily accessible to the public and drainage from the mine site.**
3. The proposed action consists of:
 - a) Constructing or improving existing access roads. Temporary stream crossings may be needed. All stream crossings will be removed upon completion of this project;
 - b) Permanently sealing mine entries;
 - c) Establishing vegetation on all areas disturbed by this project. Approved seed mixtures will be used;
 - d) Installing and maintaining standard erosion and sediment control measures throughout the duration of this project.
4. Known property owner(s) in the area of the proposed reclamation are:

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

Sandra Blankenship
Karen Willis and Earl Scott
Darlene McClain
Dennis and Katherine Blankenship
Garney Blankenship

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 **Virginia Mountaineer**, and posted on the property, the Division will initiate and continue until the proposed work on the **Panhandle Road Portals 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.

A copy of this notice can also be found on our website at
<https://www.dmme.virginia.gov/PublicMeetings/PublicNotices.shtml>.

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.

DATE 7/31/15 BY Randy Casey
Division Director