

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS AND ENERGY**  
**FY2012 ABANDONED MINE LAND CONSOLIDATED GRANT**

The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's (DMME) Division of Mined Land Reclamation (DMLR) is submitting a grant request to the U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement (OSMRE) for funding of the Fiscal Year 2012 Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Consolidated Grant. The AML Consolidated Grant provides support for program administration and construction projects for Virginia's AML Programs.

The AML Administration Program provides support for Virginia's AML Program to protect the public health, safety and general welfare from the adverse effects of coal mining practices that occurred prior to the enactment of the Federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. The AML Construction Reclamation Program provides funding for the reclamation of abandoned mine sites that endanger public health, safety and general welfare and are the results of adverse impacts of past coal mining practices. Subject to federal funding, the following projects will be pursued.

**1. Special Set-Aside Project FY2012**

Special set-aside monies will be used to study, design, construct and monitor acid mine drainage (AMD) remediation projects.

**2. Engineering Project FY2012**

Engineering provides for design work, realty and environmental permitting for AML reclamation projects.

**3. Maintenance FY2012**

Maintenance provides for repair work on previously completed projects.

**4. Water Supply Projects FY2012**

One project to assist with public water system expansions in AML areas will be conducted.

- Hurley Regional Water Line Extension Phase IIIB - Located in the Hurley area of Buchanan County and extends public water to 141 households.

**5. Virginia Coalfield Projects FY2012**

VIRGINIA COALFIELDS PROJECTS will be performed in accordance with Virginia's Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan, as amended, and in accordance with the provisions of P.L. 95-87, as amended, the Title IV Regulations, and the Federal Assistance Manual. The intent of reclamation will be to address Priority 1, 2, and 3 features within specific problem areas. Priority 3 reclamation will be either an integral part of, or incidental to Priority 1 and 2 reclamation.

- Big Branch Portal AMD - At the intersection of Routes 628 and 720, approximately 1.5 miles southeast of St. Charles in Lee County. Project will seal a mine portal and install open limestone channels.
- Billy Fork Portals - Approximately 3.0 miles north/northeast of Hurley on Billy Fork of Upper Elk Creek off Route 711 in Buchanan County. Project will include sealing mine portals, removal of structure and drainage control work.
- Bladon Pits - Approximately 1.65 miles south of Manakin and 1 mile north of the intersection of Watkins Landing Road and Route 711 in Powhatan County. Project will reclaim up to 4 vertical openings.
- Cloverleaf Highwall - Near the intersection of Routes 58A and US 23 near the City of Norton in Wise County. Project will include elimination/stabilization of dangerous highwalls adjacent to state road, sediment and erosion control, and revegetation.
- Dotson Portals - Located north of Route 645 in Buchanan County. Project will reclaim mine portals and provide drainage control.
- Flatrock Portals - Located 2.6 miles north of Honaker, in the Flatrock community of Russell County. Project will reclaim mine portals, remove hazardous equipment and facilities and provide drainage control.

- Hale Creek Portals - Located on Hale Creek, 3.5 miles north/northwest of Pilgrims Knob on Route 640 in Buchanan County. Project will reclaim mine portals, remove hazardous equipment and facilities and provide drainage control.
- Hobbs Branch Drainage - Located 3.5 miles east of Grundy on Route 728 in Hobbs Branch off Slate Creek in Buchanan County. Project will correct drainage problems.
- Horse Branch Landslide Phase II - Located northeast of Grundy on Horse Branch in Buchanan County. Project will stabilize a landslide area.
- Hunter's Shaft - Approximately 4.6 miles southwest of Manakin, south of Route 711 (Robious Rd.) and west of Manakintown Ferry Road in Powhatan County. Project will reclaim 3 vertical openings, 1 hazardous water body, and 2 mine openings that are close to residential areas.
- Indian Creek Erosion - Located on Indian Creek, north of Bandy in Tazewell County. Reclamation will revegetate eroding mine lands and remove abandoned equipment.
- Jackson Fork Portals - Located 2.5 miles north/northeast of Harman on Jackson Fork of Indian Creek off Route 628 in Tazewell County. Project will reclaim mine portals, remove hazardous equipment and facilities and provide drainage control.
- Josh Branch Portal - Located 1.1 miles north of Aily off Route 670 in Dickenson County. Project will reclaim a mine portal and provide drainage control.
- Klondyke Portals - Located southwest of Route 621 on Hurricane Fork in Russell County. Project will seal mine portals.
- Mud Creek AMD - Located on Route 766 about 2 miles northwest of the Robbins Chapel community in Lee County. Project will backfill and regrade mine pits, eliminate a highwall, and install an open limestone channel and treatment pond.
- Norton Gob Pile - Located approximately 0.3 miles west of the intersection of Routes 58A and US 23 in the Norton city limits. Reclamation will remove an eroding gob pile and revegetate.
- Panhandle Road Portals - Located approximately 1.5 miles southeast of Lovers Gap off Route 83 in Buchanan County. The project will include sealing of mine portals, removal of structure, clogged stream and drainage work.
- Petry Portal - Located in St. Charles in Lee County. Project will close a mine portal and install an open limestone channel.
- Pounding Mill Branch Drainage II - Located near the intersection of Route 643 and 648, approximately 0.5 miles from Hurley in Buchanan County. Project will stabilize a landslide and provide drainage controls.
- Rivers Mine Drainage - Located on Route 766 about 4 miles west of the Robbins Chapel in Lee County. Project will install open limestone channels and revegetate.
- Salle's Creek - Approximately 2.6 miles northeast of Midlothian and 0.9 miles northwest of intersection of state routes 711 and 673 in Chesterfield County. Project will reclaim 3 vertical openings and 4 related mining features.
- Scott County Gob Piles - Located at three sites in Scott County: near Stanleytown, Ka, and Dungannon. Reclamation will include removal of gob piles, stream restoration, and revegetation.
- Skeens Portals - Located on Looney Creek off Route 656 in Buchanan County. The project will install mine seals and drainage control.
- Smith Branch Portals - Located on Route 701 in Smith Branch off Slate Creek, 6.4 miles northeast of Grundy in Buchanan County. The project will include mine seals, structure cleanup and drainage control.
- Townhill Creek - Located on Town Hill Creek off Route 615, north of Richlands in Tazewell County. Project will include mine seals, structure cleanup and drainage control.

- West Dante Portals - Located off Route 673, in the West Dante community of Russell County. Project will include removal of hazardous equipment and facilities, structure removal, landslide stabilization, mine portal closures and grading and installation of drainage structures on abandoned coal mined lands.
- Yellow Creek Mine Drainage Project - Located on Yellow Creek Road, in the Town of Wise, Wise County. Reclamation will include possible mine dewatering, installation of drainage controls and revegetation on two (2) sites.
- AML Enhancement Projects: Projects wherein a contractor can remove and sell incidental coal and use the revenue to offset the cost of AML reclamation. DMLR will accomplish these projects as government financed construction exemption projects.
  - Hurricane Fork II Gob - Located on an unnamed tributary of Hurricane Fork, approximately 1.8 miles north of South Clinchfield in Russell County. Reclamation will remove an eroding gob pile, restore an ephemeral clogged stream, and revegetate.
- No-Cost Highwall Elimination Projects: Highwalls and other AML features will be eliminated using excess spoil from active mining operations. Projects will be accomplished at no cost to the Virginia AML program in cooperation with active mining operations (in accordance with 4 VAC 25-130-816.76 of the Virginia Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Regulations).
- Tree Planting Project: Trees will be planted on AML sites throughout the southwest Virginia coalfields. Trees will also be planted on AML Enhancement Projects as a component of government financing of enhancement projects.

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Further information about this grant can be obtained by contacting the DMLR's Abandoned Mine Land Section at (276) 523-8206. Written comments concerning this grant request will be received for fourteen (14) days following publication of this notice. Address all comments to: Division of Mined Land Reclamation, P. O. Drawer 900, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219, Attn: Roger L. Williams.

In addition, a public meeting about the proposed grant will be held at 9:30 A.M., February 17, 2012, in Room #116 at the DMME's Buchanan-Smith Building located at 3405 Mountain Empire Road, Big Stone Gap, Virginia. (In the event that adverse weather precludes holding the conference on this date, the conference will be held on February 21, 2012, at the same time and location.) Anyone needing special accommodations for a disability should contact the DMLR at (276) 523-8206 or the Virginia Relay Center TTY/TDD 1-800-828-1120 or 1140 by February 10, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF MINES, MINERALS AND ENERGY  
DIVISION OF MINED LAND RECLAMATION  
 (Owner)

RICHARD V. DAVIS  
ABANDONED MINE LAND PROJECT COORDINATOR  
 (Authorized Representative)

By: \_\_\_\_\_