Authorization to Proceed (ATP)

Arjay Refuse Fire High Priority
Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Reclamation Project
based on Environmental Assessment (EA)
Bell County, Kentucky

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) has completed a review of the May 2, 2012, request for ATP with construction activity on the Arjay Refuse Fire High Priority AML Reclamation Project prepared by the Kentucky Department for Natural Resources, Division of Abandoned Mine Lands (DAML). OSM found that the appropriate request documents were submitted and appear to support the need for the proposed construction activity. OSM confirmed that the required information for this project has been included in the AML Inventory System under PA# KY-002713-SGA.

OSM reviewed the EA prepared by DAML documenting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review of this project. OSM determined that the EA adequately discusses the environmental issues and impacts associated with the construction of the project. Based on the analysis in the EA, I have determined that reclamation of this abandoned mine site would not have significant effects on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, I conclude that no environmental impact statement is necessary. As a result, I have signed the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Arjay Refuse Fire High Priority AML Project. Please give special attention to the following recommendation(s).

- When a response is received from the OSA, please forward a copy to OSM and follow the recommendations (if any are offered) to protect any identified archaeological resources.

- Please follow all appropriate provisions included in the DAML Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan guidance document throughout the construction activity at this site.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 5-11-20D.3 of the Federal Assistance Manual and my signature on this notification document, DAML is authorized to proceed with the construction activity for this project as described in the ATP request documents submitted by DAML for this project and further conditioned in this notification, and expend Federal funds in accordance with AML grant terms and conditions.

Joseph L. Blackburn, Field Office Director
OSM Lexington Field Office

Date 5/7/2012