UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Office Of Surface Mining Reclamation And Enforcement  
ABANDONED MINE LANDS  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CERTIFICATION AND DETERMINATION

State: Kentucky  
PA: KY 0926 SGA, KY 3018 SGA, KY 3763 SGA, & KY 4192 SGA  
Project Name: Carol Walters Group AML Reclamation Project  
Project Description: Portal closures, slope stabilization, and drainage control installation at 4 sites.

I. GENERAL EXCEPTIONS

Does the project type specifically require an EA in 516 DM 6, Appendix 8, as specified in Item I of the attached instructions?  
No [x] Yes [ ]

II. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR EXCEPTIONS

Will the project have any of the following:

- A significant adverse effect on public health or safety?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- An adverse effect on any of the following unique geographic characteristics? If 'yes,' check the ones that apply:  
  No [x] Yes [ ]
  [ ] Parks (state, local or National)  
  [ ] Recreation or Refuge Lands  
  [ ] Wilderness Areas  
  [ ] Ecologically Significant or Critical Areas  
  [ ] Prime Farmlands  
  [ ] Wild or Scenic Rivers  
  [ ] Wetlands  
  [ ] Floodplains  
  [ ] Sole or Principal Drinking Water Aquifers

- Highly controversial environmental effects?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- Highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or unique or unknown environmental risks?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- A precedent for future action or a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- Directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- Adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]

- Adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?  
  No [x] Yes [ ]
Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Wetlands Protection) or The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act? No [x] Yes [ ]

Threaten to violate a Federal, State, Tribal or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? No [x] Yes [ ]

III. RESOURCE IMPACT EXCEPTIONS

Are there any unresolved issues or adverse effects requiring specialized mitigation for any of the following resources? If yes, check the ones that apply.

No [x] Yes [ ]

- [ ] Topography
- [ ] Land Use (includes prime farmland)
- [ ] Soils
- [ ] Vegetation (includes wetlands)
- [ ] Hydrology
- [ ] Fish and Wildlife
- [ ] Historic and Cultural
- [ ] Recreation
- [ ] Air Quality
- [ ] Noise
- [ ] Other (includes socio-economics)

IV. ATTACH CONSULTATION LETTERS AND A LOCATION MAP

V. RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION

Signature: [Signature] Date: 2-6-12
Name and Title: Mark Meade, Acting Director
Division of Abandoned Mine Lands

VI. OSM DETERMINATION

☐ This project conforms with the exclusion criteria in 516 DM 6, Appendix 8, and is excluded from further NEPA compliance.

☐ This project does not conform with the exclusion criteria in 516 DM 6, Appendix 8, and requires an environmental assessment.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 4/17/12
Name and Title: Joseph L. Blackburn, Field Office Director