

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

Les Combs High Priority  
Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Project  
Johnson County, Kentucky

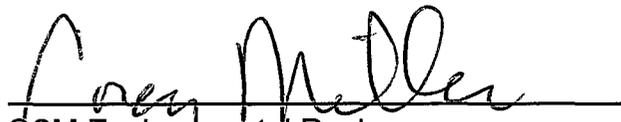
The Commonwealth of Kentucky submitted an Authorization to Proceed with Construction Activity (ATP) request for Federal AML grant funds to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) for this project. The ATP request consists of a request letter, Environmental Assessment (EA) with reference to consultation correspondence, project description, location map, AML Inventory System (AMLIS) Problem Area (PA) Description forms, and other supporting enclosures. The project area may be centrally located on the Paintsville, Kentucky U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute Topographic Quadrangle map(s) at 37° 51' 23.75" North Latitude and 82° 46' 24.24" West Longitude near the community of Tutor Key, Kentucky. The project location, AML problems to be addressed and proposed reclamation activity/cost are also available at <http://www.osmre.gov> in the AMLIS under PA# KY-004174-SGA. The project involves reclamation of AML conditions consisting of a dangerous slide at one site.

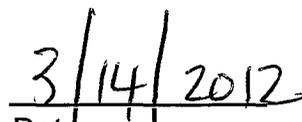
OSM has thoroughly reviewed the EA prepared for this project by the Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands (DAML) and determined that it adequately discusses the environmental issues and impacts as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for OSM abandoned mine lands reclamation grant construction activities for authorization purposes. Based on the analysis in the EA, I find that the construction activity performed under this project will not have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, I conclude that a detailed Environmental Impact Statement is unnecessary. My specific reasons are as follows:

The alternative to not fund the project would result in no favorable impacts and the adverse impacts would continue unabated. The long-term beneficial impact of the proposed action will result in the protection of the health, safety, general welfare, and property of the local citizens and other persons who may come in contact with these AML conditions. No long-term adverse impacts are anticipated. Short-term environmental impacts are limited to sedimentation, noise, and inconvenience to the local residents while the project is constructed. Sedimentation will be controlled by using silt control and prompt revegetation of the disturbed area. Noise, dust, and other inconveniences to local residents are unavoidable impacts related to construction activities.

All appropriate government agencies were consulted or their review criteria applied by agreement. As a result, it was determined that the project area does not contain or significantly affect threatened or endangered species or their habitat, jurisdictional wetlands, cultural or historic values, prime and unique farmland values, recreational resources, or Class I air quality regions. To reduce impacts from the project, the

recommendations made by the agencies consulted were considered and, as appropriate, incorporated into the EA prepared by DAML and/or as an element of their request for ATP with construction submitted for OSM authorization. The responses from agencies consulted for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review include the comments and/or recommendations in the Finding of No Significant Impact signed on November 29, 2011.

  
OSM Environmental Reviewer  
AML Program Specialist

  
Date

  
Joseph L. Blackburn  
Field Office Director

  
Date