



OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
710 Locust Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902



**EMERGENCY PROJECT  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION**

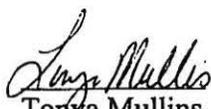
**3<sup>rd</sup> Street Subsidence Emergency Project (Site No. 14701)  
Priority 1: 1 acre (S) Subsidence  
Wise County, Virginia**

OSMRE DETERMINATION: Pursuant to 40 CFR Section 1506.11, OSMRE has determined the activities associated with this AML project do not constitute a significant impact to the environment, and therefore authorizes accelerated reclamation activities necessary to abate the immediate impacts to the public health and safety without prior completion of the environmental review requirements of 40 CFR Sections 1500-1508 (regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act - NEPA). This authorization is being provided in accordance with OSMRE directives (REG-1: NEPA Handbook; GMT-10: Federal Assistance Manual, chapters 5-11), and policy. This determination is based on a review of the proposed action and environmental conditions pertaining to this site. DMLR has completed consultation with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for this emergency.

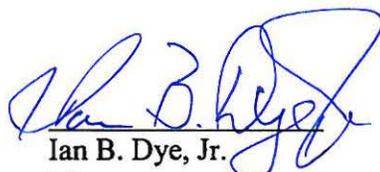
On April 19, 2015, OSMRE was notified by DMLR's Richard Davis that there was an extreme hazard caused by old mine workings in Norton, Wise County, Virginia. DMLR submitted the formal emergency declaration request package to OSMRE's Knoxville Field Oversight Branch on April 28, 2015. DMLR's field investigation revealed a subsidence directly beneath the roadway of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Norton, VA.

DHR responded its inventory files shows no recorded historic districts, structures of archeological sites located within the project's area of potential effects. DHR recommended a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed emergency project. The FWS determined there the project would not result in adverse effects to federally listed species or designated critical habitat.

There is an immediate need to act. The subsidence creates a high probability of substantial physical harm to the health and safety of anyone using 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and for nearby residents, or the public. The emergency condition needs to be abated in a time frame not possible under normal State program procedures in order to protect the health and safety of the residents. Therefore, there is a need for immediate action and DMLR is authorized to proceed.

  
Tonya Mullins  
Physical Scientist  
Field Oversight Branch  
Knoxville Field Office

4/28/15  
Date

  
Ian B. Dye, Jr.  
Manager  
Field Oversight Branch  
Knoxville Field Office

4/28/2015  
Date