



United States Department of the Interior



OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

710 Locust Street, 2nd Floor
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

EMERGENCY PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION

Roda Road Emergency Project (Site No. 12539) Priority 2: .1 mile (CSL) Clogged Stream Land Wise County, Virginia

OSMRE DETERMINATION: Pursuant to 40 CFR Section 1506.11, OSMRE has determined the activities associated with this AML project did 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 - NEP A). 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 completed 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.

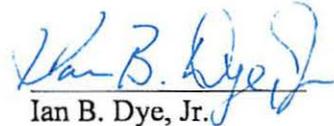
DHR responded its inventory files shows no recorded historic districts, structures of archeological sites located within the project's area of potential effects. DHR recommended a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed emergency project. The FWS determined because federally listed aquatic species and designated critical habitat do not occur in the area affected by the emergency action, it is unlikely there were any adverse effects to federally listed species

On March 9, 2015, OSMRE was notified by DMLR's Richard Davis that DMLR had abated an extreme hazard caused by old mine workings on the evening of Friday, March 6, 2015 and early morning of Saturday, March 7, 2015. DMLR submitted the formal emergency declaration request package to OSMRE's Knoxville Field Oversight Branch on March 13, 2013. DMLR's field investigation following notification of the hazard revealed three separate discharges from underground mines. DMLR personnel estimated the flow of water at 500 gpm, with the discharges joined and eroding a channel. State Route 685 was flooded as erosion and sedimentation had clogged a culvert under the state road.

There was an immediate need to act. The clogged stream and flooded road created a high probability of substantial physical harm to the health and safety anyone using State Route 685. DMLR's concern was that vehicles might hydroplane on the increasing water level over the roadway, or that the water might freeze over this section of the road. The emergency condition needed to be abated in a time frame that was not possible under normal State program procedures in order to protect the health and safety of the residents. Therefore, there was a need for immediate action and DMLR was authorized to proceed.


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3/17/15
Date


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3-17-2015
Date