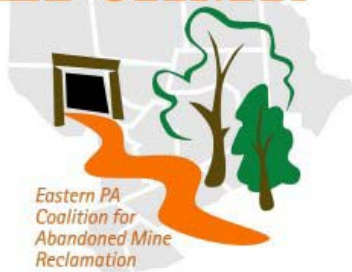


# EPCAMR



## EPCAMR Program Staff

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January 18, 2010

## Re: Work Progress Report on the Hicks Creek AMR Natural Stream Channel Restoration Grant

### Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation- Hicks Creek AMR Natural Stream Channel Restoration Grant

Update Work Progress Report-PD060048 (April 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2010)

- Dennis Palladino, our Project Officer informed EPCAMR that the Grant Center said that they need a formal letter requesting an extension once the waiver is approved; The waiver is still pending; He would let EPCAMR know when it is approved and then we could send him the letter for processing; He informed EPCAMR that he had processed our most recent Application for Reimbursement on April 1, 2009; EPCAMR is still waiting on the waiver approval
- On June 18, 2009, EPCAMR received an e-mail from Dennis who was going to check in on the waiver since it is so close to the end of the grant contract; Later that same day, EPCAMR received a follow-up e-mail from Dennis that stated the Grant Center's answer. The Grant Center said that if the grantee continues to do work after June 30th, they will be doing at their own risk. The Grant Center cannot guarantee that the waiver is going to be approved; however, the waiver has never been declined in the past. If the waiver is not approved, they will not be able to grant an extension; therefore, the grant would be closed out; Dennis doesn't know what kind of effect the Governor's budget problems might have on Growing Greener funding; This does present a problem for EPCAMR because Borton & Lawson's contract is dated June 30, 2009 and Skelly & Loy's contract was inadvertently dated June 30, 2010; EPCAMR has informed Borton & Lawson of our situation and called Skelly & Loy about the dilemma as well on July 1<sup>st</sup> to see if we what we can do; All reimbursements of work completed through June 30, 2009 have been processed by EPCAMR; Skelly & Loy slowed down their work considerable throughout the Fall 2009
- On July 1, 2009 Borton – Lawson informed me that they still had to go back out to the site to pick up pins put down by Skelly & Loy; Informed Stephen Boone, Project Officer to go ahead and work the 16 hours that it will take to complete the survey and base map to provide to Skelly & Loy; Borton – Lawson need to complete the photo-inventory remaining under their Scope of Work
- On July 2, 2009 EPCAMR requested that some funds be moved from the Construction Line item to the Salary line to cover anticipated expenses; It was approved

- On July 7<sup>th</sup>, EPCAMR Executive Director met with the President of the Hicks Creek Watershed Association to update him on the progress that we are making with the project and to request that he inform members of the watershed group (HCWA) at their next monthly meeting
- On August 10, 2009, EPCAMR Staff and interns went to the Hicks Creek upper stream channel and a lower stream channel section that was not flowing within the project area and performed a macro-id sampling and field water quality and quantity event for a baseline comparison;
  - Hicks Creek - Wetland Delineation Site 2
  - Weather in Past 24 Hours – Rained Heavy
  - Water Sampling: pH – 7.5 Temp – 69 deg F Alkalinity – 34.2 mg/l Acidity – 17.1 mg/l Fe - .8 mg/l Nitrite – 0 mg/l
  - Flow– an estimated 262 gpm (stream dries up before Schooley Ave. Basin near Wetland Delineation Site 1)
  - Macros: 2 caddisfly larvae (net-spinner and stone builder), 2 scuds, 1 water penny, 1 aquatic worm, 1 crane fly larvae and 2 midge larvae. 9 total. 22% EPT. (Poor Aquatic Health conditions based on WV SOS Level II Biotic Index Scoring Scheme)
- On August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009, EPCAMR Executive Director talked with Karen Szwast-Hicks Creek Watershed Association about getting together with the Watershed Association and Exeter Borough Council once the final design is completed to keep them informed of the project
- EPCAMR Executive Director has been spending time reviewing the attachments provided by Skelly & Loy for the detailed requirements related to the EA; On September 28, 2009 EPCAMR Staff went ahead and completed and signed the EA; Once completed, the EA was submitted to the PA DEP NE Regional Office, to Mr. Gary Greenfield's attention for review and approval
- On October 6, Mike Hewitt posted the Wetlands ID Report to the EPCAMR FTP site for PA DEP BAMR and our consultant engineers to pull down due to its file size
- On January 5, EPCAMR finally had received word from the Grants Center that our extension was granted and approved; There was a miscommunication and we never got word that our grant was officially approved for our waiver; Our Project Officer never received word on the approved granting of the waiver; EPCAMR submitted the necessary letter officially requesting the extension; However, they have only given us until June 30, 2010 to complete the project; This may put in a position where we are going to have to hope that the permit review process is quick and we can get the final design completed by Spring 2010 so that we can go out to bid by late April at the latest with a 2 month window for construction; It may be pushing the envelope and we are not sure if we can get another extension
- On January 7, Dennis Palladino, our Project Officer was going to look into the status of our EA submission that Gary Greenfield is reviewing

Respectfully Submitted,

*Robert E. Hughes*

Robert E. Hughes  
EPCAMR Executive Director