

EPCAMR



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April 2012 Progress Report

Education & Outreach

- Assisted Palmira Miller-Program Manager-PEC NE Office with seeking volunteers to conduct an illegal dump site cleanup at the Avondale mine site and along the Susquehanna Warrior Trail in Plymouth Township by putting a call out for volunteers to participate on our EPCAMR FaceBook site that reaches several hundred supporters of EPCAMR
- Submitted EPCAMR's comments on the draft PA DEP White Paper on the Utilization of AMD in Well Development for Natural Gas Extraction to the full membership of the State Mining & Reclamation Advisory Board (MRAB), the MRAB Reclamation Committee, and the SRBC Water Quality Advisory Committee for review; Attended the MRAB Mtg on 4-26-2012 in Harrisburg
- Conducted an AMD/AML Outreach Program and Tour for the Plains-Solomon 6th Grade Class who are going to be helping EPCAMR to build/paint the first ever constructed Solar Kiln to dry AMD; 125 students over two days were taken on a tour of the Southern Wyoming Valley to see AMD sites, AML Sites, and reclamation sites; (<http://citizensvoice.com/news/students-turn-mine-waste-into-tie-dye-1.1300980#axzz1sKHK6Z7z>)
- Daniel Robinson, an avid photographer from Virginia was interested in information on the Huber Breaker; EPCAMR referred him to the website and communicated an e-mail to him about the status of the project
- Submitted comments on behalf of EPCAMR to SRBC for the *2013-2014 Water Resources Program*

Technical Assistance

- Ronde Baquie'-Chairman, *Dynamic Technology Ltd.* sought EPCAMR out to provide him with a tour of several AMD discharges in the Wyoming Valley that he could sample for his company to evaluate the potential for a patented mobile AMD Treatment Technology being developed in Bethesda, MD that may be utilized in the frac water/gas drilling industry; EPCAMR Staff set up a field tour with Mr. Baquie' and educated him on AMD impacts and the issue facing PA from past mining practices due to his unfamiliarity of the region; Informed him of our 14th Annual PA AMR Conference in August 2012 and suggested that he might want to attend and exhibit or network with our AMD counterparts and partners
- Talked with Mike Korb-Environmental Program Manager for the PA DEP BAMR about an overflowing stripping pit alongside of a steep mountain slope in W. Wyoming on W. Brady St., causing some flooding issues for a private property in W. Wyoming Borough that EPCAMR had assisted with conducting an initial investigation of the site last year only to make a

recommendation to the owner that they follow up with the State to see if it qualified for Title IV funding for land reclamation; Was informed recently that PA DEP BAMR believed that there was no funding available for this particular problem area; EPCAMR had been in communication with W. Wyoming Borough Councilwoman Eileen Cipriani to provide her with suggestions as to funding alternatives and some advice on what type of stream channel swale project design/construction would be needed to reduce the flooding issue, including the removal of tree stumps that were placed by the property owner into the pit that was only exacerbating the problem by reducing the volume of water the pit could hold during storm events, which is the only time the flooding concerns arise

- Investigated our RAMLIS CD to look for some underlying problem areas for a private homeowner on Nandy Drive in Kingston, PA in the Green Acres Problem Area, who was interested in finding out if she needed mine subsidence insurance on her home; She has been experiencing water problems in her basement
- OSM-Pittsburgh, has once again come through, big time for EPCAMR by providing us with a copy of **Global Mapper**, valued at ~\$400 (<http://www.bluemarblegeo.com/global-mapper/>) because an Enterprise License Agreement has been awarded to DOI and is available to all OSM, State and Tribal personnel doing Title IV and V SMRCA work as well as TIPS partners, including EPCAMR
- Forwarded on a request from Jim Charowsky-PA DEP BAMR regarding any mine pool mapping work that we may have done for the Kaska, Silver Creek Reservoir Area along SR 209; We have been working eastward from the western most portion of the Southern Field with the 3D Modeling, but the model is only up to about Tremont
- EPCAMR received a data request from Mike McClure and Dave Arnold from Marshall Miller & Associates, Inc., GIS Specialists out of Blacksburg, VA for a list of the GIS data layers for the Sayre, Morris Ridge, and Midvalley #3 Collieries, including Mine barriers, Anticlines, Historic mine pool polygons, Base of seam elevation contours, Multi-colliery hydrologic unit polygons, Watershed polygons, and County polygons

Conference Coordination

- Registered the EPCAMR Staff and 3 Interns to attend the **6th W. Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium** in State College being hosted by Trout Unlimited's Eastern PA AML Program, the W. Branch Restoration Coalition, and other partners, EPCAMR included; EPCAMR King's College Interns completed a Student Poster for submission: *"The Value of Obtaining an Internship with EPCAMR & Experiences Learned That Go Along With It"*. to obtain a free registration to the Conference as a part of their EPCAMR Internship; Attended the Symposium and plugged the **2012 PA AMR Conference** in August at the event
- Conducted an AMR Conference Call on March 19, 2012 with the Planning Committee to begin working on the agenda for the **2012 AMR Conference** at the Ramada Inn State College, PA August 2-4th, 2012; Followed up with Mario Carello and Mike Smith-Moshannon DMO who will be assisting us with arranging a possible AMD Tour Route in the Centre/Clinton County area

- Conducted a follow-up water sampling event on Sugar Notch Run in Ashley, PA and also assessed the entire lower section of Solomon Creek Main Stem from the Solomon Creek AMD Boreholes to the mouth of the Susquehanna River, including the Buttonwood AMD Shaft discharge that also flows into Solomon Creek just below Breaker Rd. in Buttonwood, Hanover Township, PA as a part of our continued work on the ***Solomon Creek Coldwater Conservation Heritage Partnership Project***
- Conference Call with Jeff McNelly-ARIPPA about the June 12, 2012 ***Tech Symposium & EPCAMR/WPCAMR Golf Outing*** at ToftTrees in State College, PA to get ideas and speakers together for the agenda

Project Coordination

- Prepared a final extension letter on 4-2-2012 for our ***Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design/Construction Growing Greener Project*** and submitted it to our Project Officer-Dennis Palladino-PA DEP BAMR for submission to the Commonwealth of PA for approval given the limitations and constraints we've been up against with extensions, floods, and mandatory approval processes that EPCAMR has had to go through with the local government agencies, planning, and zoning offices related to the project as well as landowners; Had discussions with Karen Szwest, Grant Coordinator for Exeter Borough, and member of the Hicks Creek Watershed Association related to our upcoming meeting with the Zoning Office and the Planning Commission to review the project details
- Talked with Mike Corcoran-Science Coordinator for the W-B Area School District to help him with preparing the Plains-Solomon 6th Grade students for topics that we will be discussing on the AMD Tour planned for them; Informed him to have the teachers use the AMD Curriculum and videos that were recently provided to all the Science Teachers in the District; EPCAMR Staff began the original design and construction of the first ever Solar AMD Kiln to dry iron oxide
- Worked with PA Tectonics and LRCA to install the pressure transducer and housing unit at the Old Forge AMD Borehole
- Provided Samantha Kutzel-Project Coordinator for the ***Solomon Creek Conservation Coldwater Heritage Plan*** that EPCAMR is completing with an update on our activities and where we are with the project; The narrative portion is underway, the stream assessments are completed, and fish survey will be conducted in the late Summer 2012 by TU; EPCAMR plans on having a public meeting with landowners along Pine Creek along a tributary that runs along the north side of Pine Run Road so that we can access the stream with their permission to sample the water and the bugs; Informed her of our problems with DO tests in AMD and not getting accurate measurements in the field; Suggested to her to see if the Committee would float the idea of a loaner program for DO probes and monitoring equipment
- Corresponded with Tom Clark-SRBC AMD Coordinator to discuss setting up one or two days of field investigations in the Southern Anthracite Coal Fields around the Rausch Creek Mine Pools and other AMD discharges as a part of the Anthracite Region Mine Pool Mapping efforts that EPCAMR is working on

- EPCAMR Staff planted trees, set up for the publicity event, and attended the Misty Ridge AML Reclamation ground-breaking ceremony along the Lackawanna River, just above Old Forge with LRCA and the Lackawanna Valley Conservancy; Met with Cindy Klenk, Senior Policy Advisor for Senator John Blake who was impressed with our work in the region; She would like her father to meet us because he was an original owner in the former Glen Alden Coal Company building where we now work and she thinks he'd be very impressed with the work that we are doing today

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reviewed and submitted our March 2012 PA DEP 319 Progress Report along with a March 2012 reimbursement request form
- Attended the **Friends Helping Friends** Kick-Off breakfast meeting at BOSCOV's Department Store in Wilkes-Barre to hear about how the fundraiser can benefit EPCAMR who will have Discount Coupons for people who donate \$5 to our organization that will allow them to shop at BOSCOV's and enjoy up to 25% off items
- Jessica Weron, a junior from Wilkes University submitted her resume to be considered for a Fall 2012 Internship with EPCAMR; EPCAMR will place it on file
- Met and interviewed Jennifer Burrini, an interested local EPCAMR volunteer with experience in Office Administration and QuickBooks, who would like to donate her time to helping EPCAMR over the Summer of 2012
- Received a resume from Peter Anania, an another interested EPCAMR volunteer, who has his MBA, and with experience in web site development and page design; EPCAMR will be following up with Peter when we have projects online that we could address that deal with management of information systems and web design/formatting
- Updated EPCAMR's account with PenTeleData from a Commercial to an Educational Account; We are now officially marked as tax exempt, late fee exempt and collections exempt; The change will save us pocket change on a yearly basis by not having us pay sales tax on the phone lines that we use



45 Watt Solar Panel Kit (right) powering the EPCAMR Solar AMD Kiln that will be used to dry iron oxide