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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
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Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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Division Director

February 25, 2014

Claron Bjork, Environmental Health Director
Southeastern Utah Health Department
P.O. Box 800
Price, Utah 84501

*See attached
mailing list.*

Subject: Public Outreach for the Evaluation of Utah's Coal Regulatory and AML Programs (Division of Oil, Gas and Mining & Federal Office of Surface Mining)

Dear Dr. Bjork:

Each year the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), and the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM), jointly evaluate DOGGM's programs for regulating coal mining and reclaiming abandoned mine lands in Utah. We determine how effectively the DOGGM coal regulatory program is (1) ensuring that land reclamation on coal mines is contemporaneous and successful, (2) preventing offsite impacts to lands and waters adjacent to coal mine permit areas, and (3) providing service to its customers. We also determine how effectively the DOGGM Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) program is using funds provided under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) to accomplish the objectives of Title IV, Section 405 of SMCRA. Our evaluation process includes the selection of specific coal mining and land reclamation topics to evaluate these criteria.

We are requesting your comments on OSMRE's oversight process for both the coal regulatory and AML programs, your recommendations for evaluation topics, and suggestions for improving our future Annual Reports. Recommendations for evaluation topics pertaining to the coal regulatory program should be geared towards determining how effective DOGGM's program is in ensuring successful contemporaneous reclamation, preventing offsite impacts, and providing customer service. Our next oversight evaluation period is from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015.

At the end of each evaluation period, OSMRE writes reports that address DOGGM's effectiveness in implementing its coal regulatory and AML programs. The Annual Evaluation Summary reports are accessible through the OSMRE website at: <http://odocs.osmre.gov/>. These reports may also be found on the DOGGM website at <http://www.ogm.utah.gov/>.

If you have any suggestions or questions on the annual evaluation process, please contact us by March 30, 2014. You may e-mail your suggestions to Daron Haddock, DOGGM, at daronhaddock@utah.gov, telephone (801) 538-5325, Howard Strand, OSMRE, at hstrand@osmre.gov, telephone (303) 293-5026, or mail us a letter at the addresses shown below.



If you prefer to receive this annual outreach letter by email in the future, please provide us with your email address.

Sincerely,



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Utah Department of Natural Resources
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Howard Strand
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation
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Denver Field Division
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Regulatory Oversight Team:

Dana Dean (DOGM), Steve Christensen (DOGM), Steve Demczak (DOGM), Flynn Dickinson (OSMRE), Daron Haddock (DOGM), Dan MacKinnon (OSMRE), Duane Matt (OSMRE), Steve Schneider (DOGM), and Howard Strand (OSMRE)

AML Oversight Team:

Christine Belka (OSMRE), Dana Dean (DOGM), Jan Morse (DOGM), Steve Fluke (DOGM), Chris Rohrer (DOGM), Duane Matt (OSMRE), and Spencer Shumate (OSMRE)

SALUTATION	NAME	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
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