



OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Public Outreach for the Evaluation of Utah's Coal Regulatory and Abandoned Mine Reclamation Programs

1 message

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Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 8:13 AM


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Cc: Thomas Medlin <tmedlin@osmre.gov>, Alexis Long <along1@osmre.gov>

Hello Coal Operators,

Attached is the public outreach letter for your review.

Please contact us by March 30, 2020 with any input on our annual evaluation process or to request discussions with OSMRE's Western Region Office.

Thank you!

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GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

February 11, 2020

Subject: Public Outreach for the Evaluation of Utah's Coal Regulatory and Abandoned Mine Reclamation Programs

Dear Coal Operator:

Each year the United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) and the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM) jointly evaluate DOGGM's coal mining regulatory and abandoned mine lands (AML) reclamation programs, as authorized under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). We determine how effectively DOGGM's coal regulatory program ensures contemporaneous and successful reclamation on active coal mines in Utah and prevents off-site impacts to lands and waters adjacent to coal mine permit areas. We also determine how effectively DOGGM's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program (AMRP) uses SMCRA grant funding to address public safety and environmental hazards related to historic mining operations in Utah. Our evaluation process includes the selection of specific coal regulatory and AML reclamation topics that address these criteria.

At the end of each evaluation year OSMRE reports on DOGGM's implementation of these programs. Our Annual Evaluation Reports can be accessed at the following website: <https://odocs.osmre.gov/>. The next evaluation year runs from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. We are requesting your comments on OSMRE's oversight of DOGGM's coal regulatory and abandoned mine reclamation programs, recommendations for evaluation topics, and suggestions for improving future Annual Evaluation Reports. We are also providing you the opportunity to discuss ideas and concerns pertinent to the Utah programs with OSMRE's Western Region Office in Denver, Colorado.

Please contact us by March 30, 2020 with any input on our annual evaluation process or to request discussions with OSMRE's Western Region Office. If you prefer to receive this annual outreach letter by email, please let us know.



Sincerely,



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Abandoned Mine Reclamation Team:

Steve Fluke, Jan Morse, and Chris Rohrer (DOGM)
Dan MacKinnon and Tom Medlin (OSMRE)