

SEMI - ANNUAL MINING MEETING

DWQ/DOGM

APRIL 18, 2007

DNR OFFICES

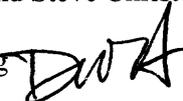
9:00AM to 10:30 AM

MEETING NOTES**Attendees:**

DEQ: John Whitehead, Mike Herkimer, John Kennington

DOGM: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Wayne Hedberg, Susan White, Daron Haddock,
Mark Mesch, and Steve Christensen

Note taker: Wayne Hedberg

**Personnel Updates**

Pam discussed recent DOGM personnel changes: retirements of Joelle Burns and Doug Jensen (Minerals Program), Kenny Wyatt and Mark Mesch (Abandoned Mines Program) and Sheila Morrison (Coal Program). Beth Ericksen has filled Doug Jensen's position. Pam mentioned the reduction in coal program OSM federal funding that has resulted in temporary reassignment of Dana Dean, Steve Demczak (Coal Program) and Doug Burnett (Data Proc) to our Oil & Gas section.

John Whitehead outlined some reorganization within DWQ's UPDES permitting section. John Kennington is section manager over the engineering staff and Mike Herkimer is section manager over Storm Water protection program. Mike George is the contact for industrial storm water permits (includes mines) and Tom Rushing is contact for municipal storm water permits.

Changes to MOU? (Change from DEQ to DWQ?)

Susan produced a copy of a draft revised MOU document dated November 2006. DOGM will route the draft to all meeting participants for further evaluation and editing. John Whitehead suggested that we might want to consider adding our Oil & Gas section to the agreement. Pam offered to contact our Oil and Gas administrators for their feedback in that regard.

Major Permitting Actions (Minerals/Coal)

Pam, Wayne and Susan discussed significant permitting actions within their respective programs. Coal program actions/issues included the following: Lila Canyon Extension (Horse Canyon Mine), Bear Canyon Mine Expansion, Emery Deep 160A IBC, Hidden Valley and Coal Hollow (surface mine) updates, recent UMA & UEI rule change requests. Minerals program actions included: Tony M Uranium Mine, Reilly Wendover Potash Mine, Palladen (Iron Mtn) Mine, Point of the Mountain aggregate mine (Geneva Rock Products), Kennecott Bingham Cyn Mine (10 section release request), GSL Minerals (25,000A) expansion, increased tar sands and uranium exploration activity.

Permitting Coordination (Minerals/Coal)
Crandall Canyon Shaft (discharge and shaft filling)

Discussed recent UPDES permit modification (issued 4/17/07) to allow one time discharge event to dewater the mine shaft. Pumping to commence later this week. Shaft sealing plans to follow.

Compliance Coordination (Minerals/Coal)

Brief discussion concluded that compliance coordination between respective agencies programs seems to be working well. DOGM commended continued coordination efforts taken by Jeff Studenka (DWQ) with the coal program staff.

**When the sediment pond is removed, what happens to the UPDES permit?
How enforce UPDES permit? Discussion of Subpart H – Western Alkaline Mine
Drainage Category. (See attachment – MOU between OSM and EPA – Region IX
for Tribal lands)**

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Steve Christensen gave brief overview of the above topic and interaction with OSM regarding the timing for removal of sediment ponds from reclaimed mine site areas and the effect on the UPDES discharge permit. Mike and John explained that once the sediment pond is removed, the UPDES permit is effectively terminate. It was suggested that if BMP's are implemented upon sediment pond removal, then perhaps the storm water permit could remain in place until bond release. John Whitehead suggested that Jeff, Mike and George work with Steve Christensen to develop language and define a process regarding sediment pond removal and BMP's.

Anti-degradation policy – procedure to change (DWQ)

Brief discussion by John Whitehead who explained that this policy is around 2 years old now and consists of 2 steps (level 1 & level 2). He indicated that DWQ has only had experience with level 1 actions thus far. They have not had any level 2 issues yet. It was mentioned that no discharges on Forest Service lands would be allowed without going through a level 2 exercise. John suggested that this be left on the agenda for next time and DWQ will come prepared to discuss the level 2 process.

Other topics?

Mark Mesch mentioned that the AMP program had project inventory maps and related survey information that could be made available to DEQ/DWQ if there was an interest or need of same. Mark said to contact Dan Smith (GIS tech) at OGM for further details.

Next meeting?

October 17, 2007 (9:00 – 10:30 am) at DWQ offices.