



KENNY C. GUINN  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
COMMISSION ON MINERAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF MINERALS**  
400 W. King Street, Suite 106  
Carson City, Nevada 89703  
(775) 684-7040 • Fax (775) 684-7052  
<http://minerals.state.nv.us/>

**Las Vegas Branch:**  
1771 E. Flamingo Rd.  
Suite #120-A  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119  
(702) 486-4343  
Fax (702) 486-4345

ALAN R. COYNER  
Administrator

## ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT FOR MAY, 2004

### ADMINISTRATION

- Administrator attended the Governor's Natural Resources Cabinet meeting.
- Commissioner Bryan and administrator attended the SME monthly meeting in Reno.
- Administrator assisted Larry Champlin concerning a custom mill site in Nevada.
- Administrator assisted Louis Ripley of Reno with information concerning possible flotation cell bulk test facilities.
- Administrator assisted Brancote Limited with mining claim filings in Lander County.
- Administrator assisted Clancy Wendt concerning possible mining fraud at a site in the Carson Sink north of Fallon.
- Administrator supplied information concerning the number of active mining claims to John Dobra, UNR.
- Administrator met with representatives of Metallic Ventures concerning activities at the Aurora mining operations.
- Administrator assisted Kerr-McGee Corporation with AML fencing documentation at the Bristol and Jackrabbit Mines near Pioche.
- Administrator was interviewed by the Las Vegas Review Journal concerning a new website sponsored by the Environmental Working Group.
- Administrator participated in a conference call concerning the NDEP database project assisted by the USACE RAMS program.
- Administrator participated in a conference call with NDEP and the USACE RAMS program lead in an effort to resolve problems with SAIC, the contractor for the AML database project.
- Administrator issued a press release concerning the National Minerals Education Conference to be held July 12 to 14 in Crystal Bay.
- Administrator assisted the Governor's Washington office in amending the Western Governor's Association Policy Resolution 01-05 "Cleaning Up Abandoned Mines."
- Administrator participated in a conference call with Western Governor's Association representatives concerning a proposal from EPA to fund a \$60,000 grant for AML inventory work in the western U.S.
- Administrator responded to an inquiry from the General Accounting Office concerning gas production in Nevada.

- Administrator met with George Taylor, senior deputy attorney general and the new deputy attorney general assigned to the Division, Janet Hess, former Story County district attorney.
- Administrator submitted three quarterly reports to the Nevada State Energy Office for the Nevada Industries of the Future grant.
- Administrator met with Dirk van Zyl UNR Mining Life Cycle Center, and Chris Cockrill, DOE Industries of the Future Program, to discuss possible amendments to the existing DOE Mining Industries of the Future grant.
- Administrator signed contracts with the Peppermill Hotel, Famous Murphy's Restaurant, and Amador Stage Lines to facilitate the Alaska Geothermal Trade Mission.
- Staff attended a Public Employees Retirement Systems conference in Reno.

### **MINE AND LAND USE ISSUES**

- Staff reviewed and commented on the Clearinghouse document regarding Castleworth Ventures' Pan Exploration Project in White Pine County.
- Staff worked in the Major Mines write-up.
- Staff met with Don Jung regarding claim filing.

### **BOND POOL**

- Staff made two trips to the Gooseberry Mine to visit the watchman regarding material sales and to go through old mine records.
- Staff issued Southern Nevada Liteweight's new reclamation bond with an effective date of May 21, 2004.

### **ABANDONED MINE LANDS (AML)**

- Staff and the administrator spent two days in the field with a USFS geologist and archeologist looking at 29 AML sites in Lyon and Mineral counties.
- Staff met with Chris Ross, BLM, regarding Washoe County and Tonopah area backfill projects.
- Staff logged in claimant securings from Esmeralda and Pershing counties.
- Staff and summer interns identified and ranked 7 AML hazardous sites in Nye County.
- Staff and summer interns secured 13 AML hazardous sites in Clark County, 17 AML hazardous sites in Nye County, secured 18 USFS orphan sites and re-built a fence around one orphan site in Lyon County, secured 11 AML hazardous sites in Churchill County and logged one minimal shaft which they posted with a DOM warning sign, and found 9 non-hazardous sites.
- Six AML hazardous sites in Clark County were secured as part of an Eagle Scout securing project.
- Staff gave a presentation at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony in Las Vegas.
- Staff prepared AML maps, ID sheets, and data printouts for all logged AML hazardous sites in Douglas County for the Douglas County Sheriff S&R.
- Staff worked on "Request for Authorization to Secure" for 34 BLM orphan sites in Clark County.
- Staff met with Chris Ross, BLM, and Jon Brown, NvMA, to discuss the status of proposed Washoe County and Tonopah area AML backfill project. Initial cultural and biological survey work will begin in June.

## **OIL AND GAS**

- Staff conducted a field inspection of the new power line in the Munson Ranch oil field.
- Staff inspected the Neighbors rig #58 stacked on the Alpine location being considered by Faskin Oil and Ranch for their wildcat oil well located near Coffin Mountain in Elko County.
- Staff assisted Faskin Oil and Ranch with oil well permitting questions for the wildcat well.
- Staff worked with Dolar Energy regarding State of Nevada oil and gas leases in White River Valley to be issued by the Division of State Lands.
- Staff coordinated the plug and abandonment plans for the Graham 11-14 oil well located in White River Valley.
- Staff attended the mid-year meeting of the IOGCC in Columbus, Ohio and served as Chairman of the Council of Regulatory Officials.
- Staff attended the Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Regulatory Coordination meetings with BLM in Reno.
- Staff met with Al Whitehead and the BLM regarding a new oil and gas exploratory unit for the Gabb's Valley area.

## **GEOHERMAL**

- Staff assisted Dick Benoit and Randy Henkle with geothermal permitting questions.
- Staff provided geothermal permitting and bonding assistance to Ormat for their Steamboat Power Plants.
- Staff approved a Mechanical Integrity testing procedure for Caithness Geothermal injection well 27-32 located in Dixie Valley.
- Staff attended the GeoPowering the West working meeting held in California.
- Staff assisted Noramex with geothermal permitting and bonding questions for 10 thermal gradient wells located in the Blue Mountain area.
- Staff provided information to a company conducting due diligence on the Stillwater Geothermal Project which is in the process of being sold.
- Staff met with Ormat regarding their recent acquisition of the Caithness Flash Plant at Steamboat.

## **EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS**

- Staff made three AML/mineral commodity presentations at Spanish Springs Elementary School to 84 fourth graders.
- Administrator and staff attended and participated in the NvMA Education Committee meeting at the Cal-Neva Resort in Crystal Bay.
- Staff gave an AML presentation at the Gold Hill Hotel Dinner/Lecture series in Virginia City.
- Staff gave two mineral commodity/AML presentations at a Reno elementary school to 80 third graders.