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ALAN R. COYNER
Administrator

ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 2004

ADMINISTRATION

- Administrator and staff attended the Northwest Mining Association Conference in Spokane. Representatives from NDOM and NBMG shared a booth and provided information to conference attendees. Administrator chaired the Area Reports session.
- Administrator, with the help of Deputy AG, Janet Hess, prepared a response to the Nevada Equal Rights Commission concerning an age discrimination claim made by an applicant for the Chief of Abandoned Mines position.
- Administrator responded to an inquiry by Bob Cuffney of White Knight Resources concerning bonding for notice level exploration.
- Administrator attended the dedication ceremony at the Newmont Phoenix Project near Battle Mountain.
- Commissioner Parratt and the administrator met with the BLM notice level bond adjudication work group and a number of recommended changes were developed, including the opportunity for notice level operators to bond through a statewide bond provided by the State Bond Pool.
- Commissioner Fagan and the administrator sent letters to Empire Energy in support of their energy park project near Gerlach.
- Administrator distributed the job announcement for the Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Project Manager position to the Geological Society of Nevada, the Nevada Geothermal Update e-mail list, the Nevada Department of Personnel, and posted it on the agency website.

MINING

- Staff prepared percentages of underground vs. surface gold production for Russ Fields regarding Turquoise Ridge Underground Miner Training.
- Staff researched and answered questions from a Goldspring investor regarding the Plum Mining operation near Virginia City.
- Staff received a request from Rich Reyburn for information on Klondex Mines and their Nevada operations/properties. Researched and provided said information with some minor additional geologic commentary.
- Staff answered questions from a Pleasant Valley homeowner regarding how she can find out if she has mineral rights related to an adit on her property.

- Staff visited the recently reclaimed Eldorado Crown mine site in Clark County.

RECLAMATION BOND POOL

- Staff got the seed for the reclamation at Trend Gold Exploration Project.
- Staff spoke with Mark Willow regarding the not-yet-retained Gooseberry sections.

ABANDONED MINE LANDS (AML)

- Staff performed research at the Douglas County courthouse on the current land status of 37 AML hazardous sites.
- Staff met with two foam closure manufacturers and discussed potential uses of the foam in the AML program in Nevada.
- Staff prepared package of all pertinent letters, notes, phone records, statements, etc for the Argentina Mine AML incidents and sent to Janet Hess, AG Office.
- Staff traveled to Ivanpah Valley with McCarran Airport Property Monitor personnel to look at a “sinkhole” on the lake bed, which turned out to be an old placer exploration shaft.
- Staff logged 2 AML hazardous sites, secured 1 AML hazardous site, and plotted 14 non-hazardous sites in Clark County.
- Staff was alerted by a student to the existence of a potential mine hazard (open pit) near Pyramid Hwy. Research shows it was a minimal hazard and posted in 1992.
- Staff discussed the viability of an AML topic as a senior project for a Carson City high school student.
- Staff conducted a reconnaissance trip to the Johnnie area with Eagle Scout candidate Kenny Booth.
- Staff traveled to the Nelson area and logged 2 AML hazardous sites and 10 non-hazardous sites.
- Staff traveled to Goodsprings and looked at securings at the Argentina Mine. All but six sites have been vandalized.
- Staff researched an open shaft hazard reported by NDEP in the Simon District in Mineral County.
- Staff visited the Golden Chariot mine site in Clark County and found the adit vandalized and headframe/shaft open and now a hazard. The adit barricade was repaired and the shaft hazard will be researched.

OIL

- Staff assisted Mike Robinson, Pioneer Oil and Gas, with necessary information required on NDOM permits, including a call to the Secretary of State’s Office.
- Staff researched and provided Ely USFS with current Railroad Valley oil production numbers for an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Staff attended the monthly meeting of NPS dinner and presentation.
- Staff reviewed and permitted Geyser Petroleum’s Pipeline Canyon #1 well located in White Pine County.

GEOHERMAL

- Staff researched information for John Barta, Apollo Gold, on the P&A status of a 1977 geothermal well drilled at what is now the Florida Canyon Mine.

- Staff assisted A&K Earthmovers in Fallon with geothermal company contact information for Esmeralda Energy and Nevada Geothermal Specialists.
- Staff reviewed and approved a Geothermal Resource Development Permit Application for ORNI 7's Industrial Production Well 78-29 in Washoe County.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

- Staff gave a "Rocks, Minerals, and AML" presentation to two fourth grade classes (approximately 54 students) at Alyce Taylor Elementary School in Sparks.