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Governor

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ALAN R. COYNER
Administrator

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT FOR JANUARY, 2005

ADMINISTRATION

- Administrator met with Del Fortner and Steve Salzman concerning the proposal to jointly fund a western Nevada field inspector for the oil, gas, and geothermal program.
- Staff worked on costs and possible revenue sources to fund a planned oil, gas, and geothermal field inspector position.
- Administrator assisted Marlin Thompson concerning mining claim filing issues and his court case in district court in Winnemucca.
- Administrator attended the Interim Finance Committee meeting and secured additional funding for the expansion of the summer intern program and an additional pick-up truck.
- Administrator assisted Donna Marie Noel of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe concerning field trips and speakers for the upcoming "Natives Impacted by Mining" conference.
- Administrator made plans for the Division to exhibit at the SME annual meeting in Salt Lake City, February 28 to March 2, 2005.
- Administrator was notified by the BLM that the participants in the abandoned mine reclamation program in Nevada will be receiving the Four C's award from the Secretary of the Interior.
- Administrator spoke with Kel Buchanan regarding the affidavit given by Russ Fields in the Marlin Thompson court case concerning forfeiture of mining claims for nonpayment of state filing fees.
- Administrator approved a change in the BOP plan for a Caithness Energy well at the Beowawe power plant.
- Administrator spoke with Bill Barger and Herb Black of the MMS concerning proposed changes to the royalty calculation for geothermal operations on federal lands.
- Administrator attended the Geological Society of Nevada Symposium Committee and monthly membership meeting.
- Administrator requested Deputy Attorney General Janet Hess obtain relevant documents for the Marlin Thompson adverse mining claim possession lawsuit.
- Administrator met with representatives of MWH and El Paso Energy concerning AML reclamation at the Comstock Mill near Virginia City.

MINING AND LAND USE ISSUES

- Staff mailed out the Exploration Survey.
- Staff spoke with Ray Fisher, Little Valley Group, regarding a proposed iron mine in Pershing County.
- Staff reviewed “Excellence in Reclamation” files for applicability in presentations.
- Staff spoke with Ray Snyder regarding property near the Ramsey Mine.
- Staff attended and participated in the Nevada Miners & Prospectors meeting in Reno.
- Staff worked on a presentation for “Natives Impacted by Mining” conference and obtained reclamation images for the presentation.

RECLAMATION BOND POOL

- Staff spoke with Cindy Dragon and Janet Hess regarding a statewide bond for the Bond Pool.
- Staff finalized the statewide bond with the Attorney General’s office and sent it to the BLM for adjudication. The statewide bond will allow industry to bond notice level activities directly with the Bond Pool if a cash deposit of 100% of the bond amount and an annual fee of 3% of the bond amount is paid upon application to the pool.
- Staff reviewed AuEx’s bond pool application and sent them a pre-qualification letter.
- Staff spoke with Jason Guznik, GREFCO, regarding Noble’s reclamation bond.
- Staff spoke with Terry Neumann from the BLM regarding the Gooseberry bond and received notification of a bond reduction in the amount of \$160,868.

ABANDONED MINE LANDS (AML)

- Staff secured 7 AML hazardous sites in Nye County as part of an Eagle Scout securing project.
- Staff logged one AML hazardous site in Nye County.
- Staff updated the USFS on nine AML sites in Nye County and sent “Authorization to Secure” forms to the BLM.
- Staff made a reconnaissance of five USFS orphan sites near Mt. Stirling with USFS representatives.
- Staff examined a reported sinkhole at Searchlight which turned out to be a collapsed septic tank.
- Staff wrote to Argentina Consolidated regarding vandalisms of secured AML sites at their mine property near Goodsprings.
- Staff followed up on AML hazard reported by NDEP. The site was formerly secured, it is now unsecured and the owner was notified.
- Staff completed and sent to the BLM the Annual Report for the 1st quarter of FFY-05.
- Staff met with Alex Heinol and Jeff Wedding, Harry Reid Center at UNLV, regarding backfill securing work.

- Staff arranged and attended a meeting with Cooksley Geophysical on possible uses of seismic surveys to delineate AML hazards.
- Staff delivered the AML database to Ron Hess, NBMG, for translation from GIS NAD 27 to NAD 83 UTM coordinates.
- Staff scheduled DAT (Data Acquisition Technician) training with the Carson City BLM.
- Staff worked on the summary of Clark County backfills and alternative closures.
- Staff contacted Nevada Pacific Gold regarding photo documentation of securings.
- Staff prepared Eagle Scout securing packets for four scouts in Las Vegas.
- Staff met with an Eagle Scout candidate regarding an AML securing project in Carson City.
- Staff conducted a reconnaissance for an upcoming Eagle Scout securing project in Clark County.

OIL AND GAS

- Staff reviewed and approved the application for permit to drill for Pioneer Oil and Gas Company's Yankee Mine West #2.

GEOHERMAL

- Staff reviewed and approved the geothermal resource development permit application for Beowawe Power's Industrial Production Well 57-13.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

- Staff attended and participated in the Nevada Mining Association's Education Committee meeting in Reno.
- Staff contacted PABCO Gypsum about a tour for the upcoming teachers' conference in Las Vegas.
- Staff reviewed education and AML videos/PSA's and corresponded with Chris Ross and Larry Wood regarding potential future PSA's.
- Staff discussed a possible partnership with the Off-Road Business Association in AML PSA development with Jon Brown, NvMA.