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Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
COMMISSION ON MINERAL RESOURCES  
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ALAN R. COYNER  
Administrator

## ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 2005

### ADMINISTRATION

- Administrator and the Selection Committee interviewed candidates for the Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Program Manager position. Christy Morris was offered the position and will start working at the Division on March 7, 2005.
- Administrator attended the Governor's Resource Cabinet breakfast.
- Administrator spoke with Dave Wolfe concerning permitting a mineral property in Nevada.
- Administrator spoke with Herb Black of the Minerals Management Service concerning royalty calculations for geothermal power plant operations in Nevada.
- Administrator met with Ginger Pearce of Pleasant Valley Citizen's Advisory Board concerning possible changes in domestic water well temperature due to operations at the Steamboat geothermal power plant.
- Commissioners, administrator, and staff attended the NvMA legislative reception.
- Staff facilitated and participated in the CMR meeting at the Mackay School of Mines at UNR.
- Commissioners Gibson, Parratt, Bryan, and the administrator attended the Mackay School of Mines Advisory Board meeting.
- Administrator, staff and deputy attorney general, Janet Hess, met with Marlon Thompson of Winnemucca to discuss his lawsuit concerning adverse possession of mining claims in Natchez Canyon near Winnemucca and the potential impact to the case from the nonpayment of the annual NOI fees at the county recorder's office.
- Administrator assisted the Department of Taxation on royalty payments from geothermal leases and production.
- Administrator gave presentations to the Senate Natural Resource Committee and the Assembly Natural Resource, Mining, and Agriculture Committee on the activities of the Division and mining activity in Nevada.
- Administrator assisted Herman Lindemann of Los Angeles concerning county taxation of his federal oil and gas lease in Nye County.
- Administrator spoke with the County Assessor's Office in Nye County concerning the taxation requirements for federal oil and gas leases.
- Administrator attended the GSN Symposium Committee meeting and the GSN monthly meeting.

## **MINING AND LAND USE ISSUES**

- Staff sent a copy of the signed Guanomi Mine contract to Russ Fields at NvMA.
- Staff assisted Ron Birdsall with information regarding a pumice deposit by Hazen.
- Staff assisted Churchill County Planning Department with updating mining company contacts on their special use permit list.
- Staff visited Mactec and got approval to use reclamation pictures for a presentation at the Natives Impacted by Mining conference.

## **RECLAMATION BOND POOL**

- Staff spoke with Atanda Clinger, BLM-NSO, regarding the status of the Bond Pool's statewide bond.

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

- Staff planned a site visit to White Gro Mine near the Valley of Fire State Park regarding an AML issue.
- Staff discussed the cost of AML PSA's with BLM and film makers.
- Staff made up the job announcement for 6 Summer Interns and sent to Leslie Rumph at UNR.
- Staff found 11 non-hazards north of Las Vegas.
- Staff e-mailed Fran Hull, BLM, regarding off-road recreation permits and the need for permittees to get the "Stay Out & Stay Alive" brochures.
- Staff completed the mail-out of AML mini units and brochures: 4<sup>th</sup> grade mini units sent = 1,011; 8<sup>th</sup> grade mini units sent = 686; AML brochures sent = 74,179.
- Staff traveled to Hawthorne to do claim research on Mineral County unsecured AML sites.
- Staff secured 3 AML hazardous sites and logged 3 new AML hazardous sites in Clark County.
- Staff attended a meeting to discuss the expenditure of SNPLMA money, including \$1.3 million for AML cultural & biological surveys and \$50k for AML closures.

## **OIL AND GAS**

- Approved several sundry notices with the assistance of John Menghini at the BLM-NSO.

## **GEOHERMAL**

- Approved several sundry notices with the assistance of Rich Hoops and John Menghini at the BLM-NSO.

## **EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS**

- Staff attended and participated in the NvMA Education Committee meeting in Reno.
- Staff made 2 presentations on minerals in technology/AML in Sparks to 52 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.
- Staff contacted Valley of Fire State Park for waiver of fees for the Las Vegas teachers' workshop tour.
- Staff gave 3 presentations on rocks and minerals to 63 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Pleasant Valley School.