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ALAN R. COYNER
Administrator

ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITY REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 2006

ADMINISTRATION

1. Met with Jon Price to finalize the "Nevada Update on Mining Production and Exploration" for the NWMA annual meeting. The powerpoint is posted on the NBMG website at <http://www.nbmgs.unr.edu/slides/NWMAupdate06.pdf>
2. Met with Art Wilson to discuss the reclamation work at the White Grow mine in Valley of Fire State Park.
3. Attended the NWMA annual meeting and the reception at the Keck Museum.
4. Attended a celebration at the Pyramid Paiute Reservation concerning the completion of the reclamation at the Guanomi Mine near Pyramid Lake. Delivered remarks on behalf of the Governor and state agencies.
5. Met with the Corporate Guarantee Review Panel to review the level of corporate guarantee currently in effect for mining reclamation in the state. The total bonded amount for mining reclamation in Nevada is \$810M. Of this, corporate guarantee is about \$181M, comprised of Newmont (\$139M), Barrick (\$38M), Bargegold (\$6M) and Glamis (\$4M).
6. Contacted the State Library and Archives concerning a new calculation to determine the percentage of land in Nevada under various ownerships (federal, state, private, etc.)
7. Approved upgrades (for less total cost), including new machines, to the Xerox contracts for the Carson City and Las Vegas offices.
8. Met with Gary Johnson, the new BLM Deputy Director Minerals and Atanda Clark, Chief of the Adjudication Branch of the BLM-NSO, and arranged meetings with DCNR, NDEP, and NDOM staff.
9. Meet with Congressman Dean Heller and Dick Davis to discuss the White Pine County Land Bill and the USFS Roadless Areas and their impact on access to public lands.
10. Meet with Jennifer Ruedy, research analyst for the Assembly Mining and Agriculture Committee and Susan Scholley, research analyst for the Senate Public Lands Committee to discuss pending legislation and provide them with an update on Nevada mining production and exploration.
11. Spoke with Steve Brown of Raser Technologies concerning geothermal well permits.
12. Responded to an inquiry from Mineral County regarding geothermal rights and domestic geothermal permits.
13. Provided Russ Fields with the installed capacity of geothermal power production in Nevada.
14. Monitored Board of Examiners meeting for approval of \$50K contract to Geotemps for AML work to begin in February.

RECLAMATION BOND POOL

1. Issued notice level bonds for TXAU Investments, White Knight Gold, and BH Minerals USA.

2. Increased the bond for Art Wilson Company's bond at the Adams Claim from \$67,118.00 to \$77,113.00.
3. Processed the refund for 2 released notice level bonds of Placer Dome Exploration.
4. Issued a regular bond for MGC Resources, Inc. for their Spring Valley Exploration Project which is an NDEP regulated project on private property.
5. Met with Gary Johnson, the new Deputy State Director for the BLM and gave him a quick briefing on the bond pool.
6. Spoke with Scott Dockter of First Gold Corp. about a bond for the Relief Canyon Mine in the amount of approximately \$613,000.

MINING AND LAND USE ISSUES

1. Attended the Northwest Mining Association's Conference in Sparks. Attended some talks and helped man the booth, which was shared with NBMG.
2. Attended the reception at the Keck Museum.
3. Investigated the difference in gold production reported to NDOM and the USGS for 2005. The figures reported to the USGS are over 100,000 ounces more than what were reported to NDOM. The difference could not be resolved.
4. Made a preliminary estimate of gold mined in Nevada that originates from public versus private land (we estimate approximately 40% public and 60% private).

PUBLIC AWARENESS / AML – NORTH

1. Met with Barbara Mackey, administrator 4th Ward School, and discussed museum exhibit options and designs for a "Stay Out, Stay Alive" component as part of their re-designed exhibit on mining. The funds approved by the Commission will also go toward the creation of a portable display, which will act as condensed version of their "Stay Out, Stay Alive" exhibit, to be loaned out for use by teachers and at community outreach events. She will send a scope of work to DOM for approval and schedule a meeting with her exhibit designer.
2. Supervised and assisted Boy Scout, Kai Fisher, and his work crew, as they secured 5 abandoned mine hazards in Washoe County as part of his Eagle Service Award project. A letter and photo CD was subsequently sent to Kai, congratulating him on his successful AML fencing project.
3. Attended the Northwest Mining Association conference in Sparks and assisted at the combined NDOM/NBMG booth. Information relating to the work performed by the Division was provided to many of the approximately 2,000 attendees.
4. Communicated with contractor, Bob Rollins, regarding his recent securing work in Lincoln County on behalf of United Delamar Mining. He completed fencing of the 14 hazards they were notified of and found several new hazards, which he has coordinates for and will forward to us for follow-up.
5. Received cover letters and resumés from five applicants for the GIS/Field Specialist position.
6. Two Rocks/Minerals/AML presentations provided to 41 6th and 7th graders at Carson Middle School (two presentations – 41 people).
7. Received a request for a hands-on Earth Science presentation for 4th graders at Caughlin Ranch Elementary School in Reno.
8. Attended the annual Nevada Bat Working Group meeting at NDOW in Reno. A lengthy discussion of the "bats and mines" issue led to the creation of a subcommittee which will meet in February. The intent will be to create a streamlined decision tree and contact list to assist with the AML inventory, bat habitat recognition and notification, bat survey, and securing processes.

9. Attended the Guanomi Mine Reclamation Celebration at Pyramid Lake. The event was hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and featured speakers representing all of the groups who participated in the remediation project. A site visit concluded the celebration.
10. Updates, edits and modifications were made to the NDOM website.
11. An overview of the AML program was presented to Gary Johnson and Atanda Clark (BLM-NSO) during his visit to NDOM's Carson City office.
12. Communicated with claimant Mike Skopos regarding securing work he completed on two hazards in Pershing County.
13. Provided maps, two signs, and mine hazard location information to contractor, Gene Domogalla (Rolling Rock Reclamation), to facilitate securing work he is planning to do for Brian Hindman, the property owner of a patented claim in Esmeralda County, who recently received a notification letter from NDOM.
14. Communicated with property owner, Trent Billingsley, regarding unsecured mine hazards existing on private land for sale in Clark County.
15. Data packages, containing necessary information relating to proposed AML backfill sites in the Jumbo Mine and New Washoe City areas, were prepared and sent to Jennifer Newmark (Natural Heritage) and Jenni Jeffers (NDOW) to facilitate winter wildlife surveys. The packages included hazard inventory sheets, photographs, maps and spreadsheets.
16. Received a request from Deb McFarlane (BLM-Elko) for AML data packages pertaining to the Contact and Tuscarora mining areas to facilitate bat surveys planned for summer of 2007 on mine hazards being considered for bat compatible closures.
17. Certificates of appreciation were sent to six Boy Scouts who completed AML fencing projects in 2006.
18. A Rocks/Minerals/AML presentation was provided to 29 4th graders at Jerry Whitehead Elementary School in Sparks (one presentation – 29 people).
19. Received a request from Russ Fields for pictures from the recent Guanomi reclamation celebration for their newsletter.

PUBLIC AWARENESS / AML – SOUTH

1. Four AML hazards were secured near Searchlight by Eagle Scout Joshua O'Barr (#50).
2. Five AML hazards needing field checking were re-located in the Springdale area north of Beatty in Nye County.
3. Conducted AML claim research in Nye and Esmeralda County recorder and assessor offices for approximately 200 hazards. Updated hazard ID sheets with AML land research conducted week ending Dec. 8 for Esmeralda and southern Nye Counties – sent to Linda.
4. Made contact with a new Eagle Scout candidate – Richard Bailey (#80).
5. Prepared BLM requests for authorization to fence new orphan sites found as a result of Esmeralda and southern Nye County land research.
6. Securing authorization requests for 2 hazards in Esmeralda County and 20 in Nye County were completed and sent to the appropriate BLM Field Offices.
7. Cultural Resource Avoidance forms for 28 Clark County orphan hazards secured during calendar year 2006 were completed and sent to the Las Vegas BLM Field Office archaeologist.
8. Met Tracy Davis, owner of Southwest Iron Company, at site of their new aggregate operation on the Rattlesnake patented claim west of Goodsprings. This is a small operation that feeds limestone aggregate to the company's asphalt plant at Sloan.
9. Debbie Selig is working extensively to overhaul and update the NDOM web site.
10. Attended Christmas luncheons for the McCaw student docents from Las Vegas High School (Wed.) and the adult docents (Fri.).

11. Assisted other McCaw Foundation Board members in organization and clean-up of storage areas at the McCaw Mine.
12. A lease for new office space at 2030 E. Flamingo Rd., Suite 250 has been approved and signed by Administrator. The move is anticipated for the March 2007 time frame.

OIL AND GAS

1. Request from Colour Corp for change of operator information on Tonano Draw well. Notified of need to clean up oil in pit on this site.
2. In contact with IOGCC DC office regarding HR 5110. Following progress.
3. Sundries approved for Grant Canyon 3 and 7 well work.
4. Sundry approved for deepening Bacon Flat well, Makoil.
5. Notification of water well approval from NDEP for Energy Operations Able wells. Technical review of down hole complete. Requested some corrections. Operator sending corrected program.
6. Coordinated with NDEP on open burning of oil issue, requested Plains Exploration to eliminate this provision in their drilling application.
7. Sundries approved for Meritage well work for Eagle springs wells.
8. Noble Energy, attempted to start PA of Rattlesnake well, rig problems delay program.
9. Coordinated with Empire Energy on log submissions.
10. Coordinating with Energy Operations NV on NDEP requirements for exploration drilling. Completed review of Able Wells 1 – 3.
11. Coordinating with DY Exploration on assumption of operator for Toana Draw well. Clean up to be addressed.
12. Rattlesnake oil and water well PA delayed due to rig breakdown.
13. Received Empire Energy, Cobble Cuesta logs.
14. Coordinating with John Stoa for Empire. Probable change in permit for Fed 2 well. Working on EA for Federal 3.

GEOHERMAL

1. Coordinating on drilling program for production well application, TG Power. Spudded observation well, using Lang rig, set surface casing. Coordinated BOPE testing with Drilling Manager. Met with JBR consultants on NDOW's concern for the project area.
2. Coordinating with RETF and GBCGE on analysis of potential loss of geothermal energy re: land bills
3. At UNR, DOE- GBCGE meeting for geothermal exploration workshop, 2 days.
4. Conference call with GRID and OIT on Hazen project, extension granted for feasibility report.
5. GBCGE board of advisors meeting, sat in.
6. Request from EMA on special use permits in Lander County. Question of the Granite Rock decision applying.
7. Coordinating with Vulcan on discrepancies in well number and locations. Requested corrections. Fees for all wells received. Technical review of downhole complete.
8. Meeting with D.Hand of Chevron Energy Systems regarding small power projects available in NV.
9. TG Power, set intermediate casing and commenced drilling core hole. Coordinated BOPE with Drilling Manager. Coordinating on drilling program for production well application.
10. Coordinating with RETF and GBCGE on analysis of potential loss of geothermal energy re: land bills.
11. TG Power drilling observation well 87-5. Rig shutting down for holidays. Coordinating with NDOW and JBR on wildlife concerns in the project area.

12. Received sundries for well TPS at Dixie Valley and Beowawe, approved and sent.
13. Attended Renewable Energy Task Force meeting.
14. Constellation doing repair work to injection well cellar.
15. Ormat doing TPS on injection well 64A, SBH.
16. Coordinating with Tonopah BLM FO, EMA and Cayley Geothermal on Silver Peak project.