

From: **Whittaker, Frank M** <frank.m.whittaker@wv.gov>
Date: Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 8:57 AM
Subject: Re: AML North Emergency - Roanoke (Richards) Dangerous Slide
To: Ayers, Jeremy D <jeremy.d.ayers@wv.gov>
Cc: B J Chestnut <b.j.chestnut@wv.gov>, Totten, Mark L <mark.l.totten@wv.gov>, Greg Clay <gregory.c.clay@wv.gov>, Alisha S Pettit <alisha.s.pettit@wv.gov>, Jessica Chambers Smith <jessica.chamberssmith@wv.gov>, Eric Simpson <Eric.Simpson@wv.gov>

Jeremy,

Your emergency is approved, Please follow the emergency procedures outlined in the Purchasing Division Procedures Handbook, and return the completed contract to this office within 30 days of this approval for public posting

Thank you,

Frank

On Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 3:42 PM Ayers, Jeremy D <jeremy.d.ayers@wv.gov> wrote:

For review and approval.

Thanks!

Jeremy

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Jeremy Ayers, P.E.

Northern Emergency Engineer

WVDEP Abandoned Mine Lands

Department of Environmental Protection

1000 Technology Drive

Suite 3220

Fairmont, WV 26554

C 304-203-4058

O 304-842-1900

F 304-842-1928



APPROVED

BY: *HW* DATE: *8/19/25*

west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation
1000 Technology Drive Suite 3220
Fairmont, WV 26554
304-842-1900

Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
dep.wv.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Frank Whittaker, Assistant Director
Acquisition and Contract Administration Section
Purchasing Division (For approval of professional services)

B.J. Chestnut, Assistant Chief
Administrative Services – Business Operations Office
(For approval of construction)

FROM: Jeremy Ayers, P.E., Northern Emergency Engineer Jeremy D.
Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation Ayers P.E.

Digitally signed by Jeremy
D. Ayers P.E.
Date: 2025.08.18 15:39:49
-04'00'

SUBJECT: Roanoke (Richards) Dangerous Slide
Emergency Reclamation Project – Lewis County, W.Va.

DATE: August 18, 2025

AML planners sent the complaint to emergency after a neighbor indicated a landslide on the adjoining property. The landowner indicated that after a storm event his hillside began to slide. The landowner has moved so much materials it is hard to see what the site could have looked like prior to the excavation work. The materials appear to be unconsolidated mine spoil from the surfaced mine. There have been several previous AML eligible projects inventoried in the area and one at the location of the landslide. This AML problem results in a dangerous situation posing a risk of injury or death to those in the area.

The mining took place in the Redstone coal seam which are located approximately 20 feet above the current landslide elevation. The last known mining operator is unknown, and the last known mining is Unknown (Pre-1977) historical aerials indicate that the mining happened in the 1950's.

Based on the situation described above, an emergency geotechnical investigation will be initiated at the site to perform an exploratory drilling and data analysis program. If the historical coal mining is found to be causing the landslide, an emergency abatement project will be initiated. The initial idea is to build a rock toe buttress to prevent the landslide from cutting off the only

access to the Richards' home. However, the findings will dictate the scope of the abandoned mine reclamation project.

Due to the initial scope of the project, the required services to investigate the problems at the site will have to be performed by an outside engineering firm. In accordance with Section 5G-1-4 of the State Code of West Virginia, since a special circumstance exists and the cost of the project is estimated to be less than \$250,000.00, I have the option of selecting an architectural/engineering firm based on satisfactory performance and knowledge of the agency's needs. Therefore, I propose utilizing Civil Tech Engineering of Hurricane, WV to perform the required services at the site.

The estimated cost for these services should not exceed \$125,000.00. The estimated cost of the site reclamation portion of the project should not exceed \$75,000.00.

Please contact me at 304-842-1900, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

JDA

Cc: File
Eric Simpson