



**APPROVED**

BY: FW DATE: 5/1/26

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west virginia department of environmental protection

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Division of Land Restoration  
Office of Abandoned Mine Lands & Reclamation  
601 57<sup>th</sup> Street, SE  
Charleston, WV 25304-2345

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

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Frank Whittaker, Assistant Director,  
Acquisition & Contract Administration Section  
Purchasing Division

BJ Chestnut, Assistant Chief  
Business Operations Office – Administrative Services

**From:** Jonathan Holbert, P.E., Southern Emergency Engineer  
Division of Land Restoration

**Date:** April 30, 2026

**Subject:** Marmet (Russell) Portals (E)  
Emergency Reclamation Project – Kanawha County

**Jonathan  
Holbert**

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Date: 2026.04.30 15:22:37 -04'00'

AML received a complaint (2026-SOU-039-060) concerning a landslide due to collapsed draining mine portals. The undocumented coal mining took place in the No. 2 Gas coal seam. The property is in Marmet, WV. The property owner's porch foundation has shifted, and the landslide is still moving. Water from three collapsed draining portals is running along the back of his house and down the driveway. Further movement of the landslide could result in substantial damage to the property owner's residence.

AML recommends completion of an emergency project to mitigate the dangerous landslide and collapsed draining portals. The project is expected to consist of excavation of the landslide, dewatering the collapsed draining portals, construction of drainage structures, and temporary access. Construction costs are estimated to be \$200,000.

Professional services will be utilized to design the reclamation. Potesta & Associates, Inc. has been selected to perform the engineering design for the project. Professional services are not expected to exceed \$70,000.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at 304-414-1182.

Promoting a healthy environment.