



west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation
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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
Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation

SUBJECT: Mount Clare (Knapp) Dangerous Slide
Emergency Reclamation Project – Harrison County, W.Va.

DATE: March 11, 2024

Reportedly the abandoned mine working's in the Pittsburgh coal seam is causing the issues behind the Knapp residence near Mount Clare, WV. There is a visible landslide that has moved down the hillside and has impacted the deck of their home. There are several water seeps and pooling water on the hillside (many have significant iron staining). The depth and condition of the abandoned deep mine are currently unknown. A thorough subsurface investigation is required to determine AML eligibility and if necessary, to design a reclamation project.

Based on the situation described above, an emergency geotechnical investigation will be initiated at the site to perform an exploratory drilling and data anylisis program. If the abandoned mine workings is found to be causing the damages to the home; an emergency abatement project will be initiated.

Due to the 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 on the basis of satisfactory performance and knowledge of the agency's needs. Therefore, I propose to utilize E.L. Robinson Engineering of Charleston, WV to perform the required services at the site.

The estimated cost for these services should not exceed \$87,000.00. The estimated cost of the site reclamation portion of the project should not exceed \$118,000.00.

Please contact me at 304-842-1900, Ext. 82083 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

JDA

Cc: File
Eric Simpson