



**APPROVED**  
BY: *[Signature]* DATE: *9/30/26*

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west virginia department of environmental protection

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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  
Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation

Jeremy D.  
Ayers P.E.

Digitally signed by  
Jeremy D. Ayers P.E.  
Date: 2026.09.30  
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SUBJECT: Green Run Rd. (Walnaha) Stream Capture (Complaint #: 2026-NOR-009-146)  
Emergency Reclamation Project - Brooke County, WV

DATE: September 30, 2026

Reportedly, Jeremy Walnaha contacted the WVDEP on behalf of a neighbor, Keith Francis, who has property located at 661 Greens Run Road, Wellsburg, WV in Brooke County. AML staff performed an onsite investigation on August 17, 2026, noting that the stream, Green Run, is going into a hole and disappearing into unknown mine workings of the Pittsburgh Coal Seam. The surface elevation at the stream is 985' and the Pittsburgh Coal seam is roughly 982' in elevation.

Due to the location of the stream entering the mine workings, an abatement plan is required because it will involve more work than simply plugging the area off. The problem area needs to be abated immediately to prevent any future hazards. A consultant is needed to complete any surface and subsurface work required to provide abatement plans and specifications to successfully eliminate the current hazards at the site.

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 The Thrasher Group of Bridgeport, WV to perform the required services at the site.

The estimated cost for these services should not exceed \$90,000.00. The estimated cost of the site reclamation portion of the project should not exceed \$135,000.00.

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

JDA

Cc: File  
Eric Simpson