

From: **Whittaker, Frank M** <[frank.m.whittaker@wv.gov](mailto:frank.m.whittaker@wv.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:15 PM  
Subject: Re: Southern AML Emergency Project - Borderland (Anderson) Highwall  
To: Matkins, Christopher T <[christopher.t.matkins@wv.gov](mailto:christopher.t.matkins@wv.gov)>  
Cc: B J Chestnut <[b.j.chestnut@wv.gov](mailto:b.j.chestnut@wv.gov)>, Steven J Hincks <[steven.j.hincks@wv.gov](mailto:steven.j.hincks@wv.gov)>, Totten, Mark L <[mark.l.totten@wv.gov](mailto:mark.l.totten@wv.gov)>, Hager III, Joseph E <[joseph.e.hageriii@wv.gov](mailto:joseph.e.hageriii@wv.gov)>

Christopher,

Your emergency request for the Borderland (Anderson) Highwall is approved. Please follow all emergency procedures outlined in the Purchasing Division Procedures Handbook and return the finalized contract to this office for public posting within 30 days of this approval.

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:04 PM Matkins, Christopher T <[christopher.t.matkins@wv.gov](mailto:christopher.t.matkins@wv.gov)> wrote:  
Frank / BJ

The Purchasing Memo for the AML Borderland (Anderson) Highwall Emergency Project is attached for your review. Professional Services will be used for this project.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information concerning the project.

Thank You

Chris Matkins  
Regional Engineer

WV Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Division of Land Restoration  
Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation  
1159 Nick Rahall Greenway  
Fayetteville, WV 25840

Office: 304 574 4465  
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west virginia department of environmental protection



west virginia department of environmental protection

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1159 Nick Rahall Greenway  
Fayetteville, WV 25840  
Telephone (304) 574-4465

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:** Chris Matkins, Southern Regional Engineer, AML

**DATE:** December 4, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Borderland (Anderson) Highwall  
AML Emergency Reclamation Project – Mingo County

AML received a complaint (2024-SOU-059-129) on 10/29/23 concerning a failing highwall at 66 Goff Road in Borderland, WV. AML personnel investigated immediately and found previously closed portals and approximately 120-feet of overhanging highwall within 15-feet of an occupied home. Portions of the overhanging highwall recently failed and were found laying against the home. Both residents and neighbors have young children who play in the area of the highwall.

Research discovered pre-law mine workings in the Williamson Seam behind the home. The mine was last operated by Bison Coal Company in 1948.

It is recommended that the highwall reclamation is approved for AML Emergency funding. The highwall must be addressed immediately as it has already failed in areas adjacent to the home. Failure to address the highwall as an emergency will likely cause damage to the residence and expose the residents and neighbors to hazards of the failing highwall.

The project is expected to consist of surveying, mapping, geotechnical evaluation, stability analysis and retaining wall design. Construction costs are estimated to be \$250,000.

Professional services will be utilized to design the reclamation. E.L. Robinson Engineering has been selected to perform the engineering design for the project. Professional services are not expected to exceed \$75,000.

Please contact me at 304-380-7502 if you have any questions.

Cc: file

Promoting a healthy environment.