



west virginia department of environmental protection

Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation
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Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
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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: 2023.09.21
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SUBJECT: Enterprise (Swiger) Subsidence IV
Emergency Reclamation Project – Harrison County, W. Va.

DATE: September 21, 2023

Paul Swiger contacted the WVDEP/AML about another mine subsidence hole that had suddenly occurred in his yard. The subsidence hole is in the back yard and goes back under the house. The hole is about twenty feet in diameter at the surface and is approximately six feet deep in the center. At the time of investigation, the subsidence is not open, there are no exposed workings, and it is not venting at the time of investigation. The Pittsburgh coal seam is approximately forty feet deep from the surface according to the mapping. There have been several subsidence issues on this property and in the neighborhood. The subsidence has affected three of the home's posts and the back footer at the time of the investigation. 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 Pittsburgh coal seam which is located approximately forty feet below the ground surface. The last known mining operator was Consolidated Coal Company, and the last known mining is 1927.

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 abandoned mine