



## MEMORANDUM

Date: January 7, 2009

To: The Land Reclamation Commission

From: Mike Larsen, Chief; Projects and Inspection Unit (*original signed by Mike Larsen*)

Subject: Bond Forfeiture Status Update

Since the last update provided to the commission on November 20, 2008, the following work has been completed by the program's bond forfeiture staff:

### **Universal Coal and Energy Co., Inc. – Mine #4 and Preparation Plant Support Area**

#### **Missouri Mining, Inc. – Mine #4**

Contract work was awarded and scheduled for the month of December at Universal Coal's mine #4. The work involved the final placement of rock in a waterway as well as the installation of a new spillway system on a pond. However, due to inclement weather and the Christmas holidays this work was not completed as expected. Every effort will be made to complete this work as soon as possible.

In addition, another contract for erosion repair, pond repair, soil placement on a few small areas and revegetation of these areas will be necessary early this year in order to complete the remaining maintenance work on this mine site. It is hoped and expected that this contract work will be completed in the first few months of this year. Weather permitting, this will complete all known maintenance work for this mine site and prepare the remaining permit areas for a release presentation before this commission prior to July 1, 2009.

Staff have been working in cooperation with landowners and the federal Office of Surface Mining to prepare parts of Mine #4 for a release presentation at this commission meeting. Also, work on a small, support area of the former Universal Coal and Energy preparation plant area has been completed and this area is now ready to present to the commission for their release consideration. In addition, a remaining area of the former Missouri Mining, Mine #4 located in Putnam county, has been examined by staff and is now ready to present to the commission for a release request. The Missouri Mining area is what is known as an "Old State Law" area (mined prior to mid 1978). All of these areas will be presented to the commission in a separate agenda item later in today's meeting.

Finally, a schedule of projected release presentations for the year 2009 has been prepared by staff for the staff's director and the Office of Surface Mining and is attached to this memo for the commission's information.