



**OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

**Annual Evaluation Report  
for the  
Abandoned Mine Lands Program  
Administered by  
the Public Service Commission  
of**

**North Dakota  
for**

**Evaluation Year 2013  
July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013**

**Prepared by  
Casper Area Office  
November 2013**



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **North Dakota's Abandoned Mine Land Program Evaluation Year 2013**

The following is a summary of the EY 2013 Oversight Report for the North Dakota Abandoned Mine Lands Program. This report covers the period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

OSM has completed its evaluation of topics specified in the Performance Agreement between the North Dakota AML Division and OSM. Assessment of NDPSC performance for the 2013 evaluation year includes reviews of selected topics, including: 1) Overall Reclamation Success, 2) AML Emergency Investigations and Abatement Efforts, 3) AML Grant Fiscal and Administrative Controls, 4) AMLIS, and 5) Public Outreach.

Site visits were jointly conducted by OSM and state personnel at various AML reclamation project sites to help assess overall reclamation success. It was agreed that all projects met their goals, abatement and reclamation measures were deemed intact and functional, and no problems compromising those measures were apparent.

No AML Emergency Investigations and Abatement Efforts were conducted during EY 2013.

The North Dakota AML program received \$3,521,731 in grant funding during EY2013. This includes administrative and construction sub-grants that fund 4.55 FTEs and is intended to fund, in whole or in part, eleven projects that are considered construction ready. A total of six projects were completed during EY2013.

Completion information entered into AMLIS for the total number of projects completed during the evaluation year was analyzed and compared to the information contained within the AMLD files. It was concluded that the information North Dakota AMLD entered into AMLIS for completed projects agrees with the information in its files.

The NDPSC encourages public participation and outreach through public meetings, public service announcements, press contacts, project meetings, and by responding to public inquiries.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	General	3
	A. Introduction	3
	B. Program Administration	4
II.	Noteworthy Accomplishments	5
	A. Overall Performance	5
III.	Utilization of OSM Technological Assistance	5
	A. National Technical Training Program (NTTP)	5
	B. Technical Innovation and Professional Services (TIPS)	5
	C. Use of OSM Provided Equipment & Services	6
	D. Financial assistance	6
IV.	Public Participation and Outreach	6
	A. OSM	6
	B. North Dakota	6
V.	Results of Evaluation Year 2013 Reviews	7
	A. Topic-Specific Reviews	7
VI.	Tables	17
VII.	Comments	22

*(Cover photo: Interpretive Display at the Columbus Mine AML Site)*

## I. General

### A. Introduction

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) created the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) in the Department of the Interior to oversee regulation of coal exploration, surface coal mining and reclamation operations, and reclamation of lands adversely affected by past mining practices. SMCRA provides that, if certain conditions are met, a state may assume primary authority for reclamation of abandoned mine lands (AML) within its borders. Once a state has obtained such approval, OSM has the responsibility to make investigations, evaluations, and inspections necessary to determine whether that state's AML program is being administered in accordance with approved program provisions.

On December 23, 1981, the Secretary of the Department of Interior approved North Dakota's Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR) Plan under Title IV of SMCRA. With that approval, the State of North Dakota through the North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC) has exclusive responsibility and authority to operate and administer the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program.

OSM's evaluation methods are based upon OSM Directive AML-22 (Evaluation of State and Tribal Abandoned Mine Lands Programs) and a Performance Agreement (PA) between NDPSC and OSM. The PA established a commitment between NDPSC and OSM identifying topics for review, methodologies for enhancement and evaluation of performance reviews, and assistance in the preparation of the final report. Assessment of NDPSC performance includes reviews of selected topics such as fiscal and administrative controls, progress in coal mine reclamation, overall reclamation success, public interaction and outreach, and integration with the OSM Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (AMLIS) database. Reclamation site visits were conducted jointly by NDPSC project managers and OSM staff. Evaluation year 2013 consisted of a full twelve month period beginning on July 1, 2012 and ending on June 30, 2013.

The following is list of acronyms used in this report:

AML	Abandoned Mine Land
AMLIS	Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System
AMLR	Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation
AMLD	Abandoned Mine Land Division
ATP	Authorization to Proceed
CIL	Certified in Lieu Funds
CAO	Casper Area Office
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
NDPSC	North Dakota Public Service Commission
NTTP	National Technical Training Program
OSM	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
PA	Performance Agreement

PAD	Problem Area Definition
PBRF	Prior Balance Replacement Funds
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977
TIPS	Technical Innovation and Professional Services

Detailed background information and comprehensive reports for the program elements evaluated during the period are available for review and copying at the OSM Casper Field Office (CFO), or on the following OSM website;

<http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/programs/oversight/NorthDakota.shtm>

Contact person: Jeff Fleischman, Director  
 Email: [jfleischman@osmre.gov](mailto:jfleischman@osmre.gov)  
 Phone: (307) 261-6550  
 Casper Field Office  
 150 East B St., Room 1018  
 Casper, WY 82602

**B. Program Administration**

The North Dakota AMLR program continues to operate under the guidelines of SMCRA, the approved State Reclamation Plan, the Federal Assistance Manual, and associated rules, regulations and policy decisions. The State administers an excellent AMLR program in full compliance with their approved AMLR Plan.

The Casper Area Office (CAO) continues to enjoy an excellent working relationship with the staff of North Dakota AMLD. Their personnel are experienced, knowledgeable, and dedicated to the goals of the program. AMLD also maintains a good relationship with other State and Federal agencies that must be contacted during the course of preparing projects for reclamation. North Dakota AMLD maintains a program staff of 4.55 full time employees.

North Dakota AMLD initiates reclamation activities each spring as soon as weather conditions allow. Many rural sites are accessible only by dirt and gravel roads, which must be allowed to dry sufficiently before heavy equipment can travel on them. Work may start as much as two months earlier on sites located near the paved road system, and it continues until halted by the severe weather conditions usually encountered in North Dakota during the winter. Coal outcrop fire suppression projects are also conducted during winter months. However, this is generally the time of the year when future projects are designed, and coordination necessary to get projects ready for the next construction season takes place. All of the reclamation completed in North Dakota to date has been on abandoned coal mines, and no non-coal work is planned.

Prior to initiating any construction work, AMLD submits a documentation package to OSM with a request for an Authorization to Proceed (ATP). This package includes 1) a complete Environmental Assessment or Categorical Exclusion, 2) a project eligibility determination pursuant to 30 CFR 874.12 prepared by the Director of the North Dakota

Reclamation and AML Divisions, 3) a lien determination pursuant to 30 CFR 882.13 if necessary, 4) a threatened and endangered plant and animal species survey, and consultation results with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5) consultation results with the State Historic Preservation Office, 6) site maps and photographs, and 7) AMLIS Problem Areas Description (PAD) reports. If acceptable and complete, CFO issues a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and an ATP pursuant to section 4-160-50D.3 of the 2012 Federal Assistance Manual to AMLD prior to reclamation or construction of each project.

## **II. Noteworthy Accomplishments**

The NDPSC continues to administer an efficient and successful AML program as set forth in Section 102 of SMCRA.

### **A. Overall Performance**

Since the Program's inception, the North Dakota AMLD has conducted over 150 primary reclamation projects, 28 emergency projects and numerous construction maintenance and sinkhole filling projects, at a total cost of over \$44 million of federal funds. More than 24 miles of dangerous surface mine pits and highwalls and 1,606 acres of underground mine subsidence have been reclaimed. These projects have reduced the likelihood of death or injury to property owners and the public.

## **III. Utilization of OSM Technological Assistance**

OSM provides technical assistance and technology support to State AML and Regulatory Programs at the individual State level on project specific efforts, and at the national level in the form of national meetings, forums and national initiatives. The WR's Program Support Division is available to provide direct technical assistance in project and problem investigation, design and analysis, permitting assistance, developing technical guidelines and training support. WR also works on the development of regional and national forums, meetings and initiates to ensure that interests and needs of individual States are considered and included in these events. WR initiated a regional Technology Transfer Team in 2003 which each State, including North Dakota, has a representative.

### **A. National Technical Training Program (NTTP)**

NDPSC sent seven students (from both the Regulatory and AML Programs) to six NTTP classes during the evaluation year. One AML staff member participated as an NTTP instructor for the AML Drilling and Grouting course.

### **B. Technical Innovation and Professional Services (TIPS)**

During the evaluation year, thirteen students from both the North Dakota Regulatory and AML Programs attended TIPS training courses, with eleven of

those personnel attending a class held in Bismarck. No staff members participated as TIPs instructors.

OSM's library services did not receive any requests from NDPSC for references or article reprints.

**C. Use of OSM Provided Equipment & Services**

OSM's library services did not receive any requests from NDPSC for references or article reprints. No other requests were made by NDPSC for OSM Provided equipment or services.

**D. Financial assistance**

During EY2013, OSM provided \$3,521,731 in AML grant funding to the North Dakota AML program. Grant No. GR307380 began on March 1, 2013 and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2016. This grant is anticipated to fund the continued administration of the North Dakota state AML program .

**IV. Public Participation and Outreach**

**A. OSM**

The OSM Casper Area Office (CAO) provides for transparency in the oversight process by conducting outreach to stakeholders and encouraging public participation throughout OSM-CAO's annual oversight activities. OSM's programmatic reviews of the North Dakota AML program indicate that the ND PSC is adhering to the State's policies and procedures regarding opportunities for public participation in all phases of the reclamation program. The public can find oversight guidance documents and OSM's Performance Agreement with the North Dakota AML Program on the following OSM website:  
<http://www.wrcc.osmre.gov/programs/oversight/NorthDakota.shtm>

Each evaluation year, the OSM-CAO solicits input from the public and interested parties to comment on the oversight process, provide suggestions for potential oversight evaluation topics, and suggestions for improvements of future annual evaluation reports. During the 2013 evaluation year, CAO received no comments or suggestions specific to the North Dakota AML Program. CAO will continue to address issues and concerns as they develop and in subsequent evaluation years.

**B. North Dakota**

North Dakota AML continues to solicit public comment and input on individual projects and the program at large. North Dakota AML publishes notices for each proposed reclamation project in local and state newspapers and on its website, and solicits public comment and requests for public meeting participation.

NDPSC maintains a web site at: <http://www.psc.nd.gov/> that includes links to information on a calendar of upcoming projects, current construction bidding, project selection, department contacts, rules and regulations, and professional procurement information.

The NDPSC encourages public participation through public meetings, public service announcements, press contacts, project meetings, and by responding to public inquiries. AML staff responded to more than 63 calls regarding abandoned mines.

## **V. Results of Evaluation Year 2013 Reviews**

OSM Directive AML-22 *Evaluation of State/Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Programs* dictates that OSM oversight of State AML programs will include a short description of all program elements reviewed during the evaluation year. These topic-specific reviews are identified and agreed to by both the State and OSM in the most recent performance agreement. For the 2013 evaluation year, both parties have agreed that OSM will conduct topic-specific reviews of; 1) Overall Reclamation Success, 2) AML Emergency Investigations and Abatement Efforts, 3) AML Grant Fiscal and Administrative Controls, 4) AMLIS, and 5) Public Outreach. However, since Public Outreach is already addressed in section IV of this report, a topic-specific review of Public Outreach will not be included in this section.

The North Dakota AML Performance Agreement (PA) for EY2013 was signed on July 6, 2012. The PA describes the team's purpose and the topics selected for review to evaluate the performance of the AML program. On-the-ground, performance-based results were the principal focus of program evaluation and documentation.

Results of the EY2013 evaluations are summarized below. The evaluations included field visits to AML projects, interviews with NDPSC-AMLD staff, and reviews of the AMLR Program's project specifications, grant applications and reports, and internal State and AMLIS inventories.

### **A. Topic-Specific Reviews**

#### **1. Overall Reclamation Success**

Our EY2013 evaluation of overall reclamation success determined if NDPSC-AMLD's reclamation met project goals. We compared NDPSC-AMLD's reclamation to project specifications, results of interagency consultation, and other information. Our evaluation focused on determining whether reclamation met project goals by implementing the scope of work to abate original hazards, complying with conditions (if any) resulting from interagency consultation, and improving overall site conditions compared to pre-reclamation conditions. Generally, we agreed projects met their goals if abatement and reclamation measures were intact and functional, and if no problems compromising those

measures were apparent. We considered site conditions improved overall if hazards to public health and safety were abated and associated reclamation reduced environmental problems such as erosion and sedimentation while promoting re-vegetation.

We concluded that the projects we visited met their respective goals. NDPSC-AMLD met the goals of abating hazards and improving site conditions at all projects conducted in EY2013. Highwalls associated with abandoned surface coal mines were properly eliminated and the re-graded areas were re-vegetated. Underground mine voids were backfilled remotely with injection of pressurized grout through drilled injection holes to eliminate the threat of subsidence. The injection holes were properly reclaimed. Sinkholes associated with underground mine voids were properly eliminated and the backfilled areas were re-vegetated.

The following is a summary of major non-emergency AMLD Projects completed during EY2013:

**2012 Exploratory Drilling – Closeout 09/18/2012**

Overall Success: Approximately 32,000 feet of exploratory drilling to locate and characterize abandoned underground mines near Belfield, Bowman, New Leipzig, Reeder and Scranton.

Contract Cost: \$170,000

ATP issued: A request for concurrence was requested by NDPSC on January 17, 2012.

This project encompassed the same scope and site location as the 2011 Exploratory Drilling Project. A letter of concurrence was issued on January 20, 2012, stating that the categorical exclusion issued for the 2011 Exploratory Drilling Project remained valid for the 2012 phase of the project.

AMLIS status: N/A - project investigation and design.

Public Outreach: ROE S. Berger (Belfield), Bowman County (Bowman), City of New Leipzig, G. Schwartz & R. Verkaik (Reeder), Scranton Equity Exchange & R. Seifert (Scranton). Project summaries were mailed to interested parties and are on file with the AML Division.

Innovative Actions: Sinkhole filling was conducted at Scranton under force account provisions. Drill hole locations were surveyed with RTK. Borehole camera was used at Scranton, Bowman and New Leipzig Sites.

**2012 Columbus Phases 13 and 14 – Closeout 12/12/2012**

Overall Success: Reclamation of approximately 7,000 feet of surface mine highwalls (Ph 13) and grading spoil piles applying soil amendments, scarifying and seeding approximately 300 reclaimed acres

Contract Cost: \$1,383,583

ATP issued: A request for concurrence was requested by NDPSC on January 17, 2012.

This project was a continuation of the Columbus Phase 11 and 12 projects and encompassed the same scope and site location as the Phase 11 and 12 portions of the project. A letter of concurrence was issued on January 30, 2012, stating that the authorization to proceed and the finding of no significant impact issued for the Columbus Phases 11 and 12 Project remained valid for Phases 13 and 14 of the project. OSM also acknowledged that the MOA between OSM, the ND PSHPO and the NDPSC also remained valid and in effect.

AMLIS status: Completion data entered 01/10/2013

Public Outreach: Last public meeting was 12/15/2009, ROE D&D Bonsness, R. Dollarhide, C. Engleson (Palda), R. Erickson, G. Brenno, G. Oas Johnson. Completion reports were given to interested landowners.

Innovative Actions: Sodic spoils required soil amendments (coal slack) and manure. 5,000 feet of wattles and 37,000 feet of fencing installed. Interpretive display constructed at Columbus City Park.



*This photo from the Columbus Phase 13 Project, shows spoil piles in the process of being topped, mixed with coal fines and seeded.*

**2012 Beulah/Zap Phase 13 – Closeout 02/13/2013**

Overall Success: Drilling & grouting to stabilize underground segments of 60th Avenue near Beulah. Material testing under a separate contract

Contract Cost: \$759,763

ATP issued: A request for concurrence was requested by NDPSC on January 17, 2012.

This project was a continuation of the Beulah/Zap Phase 12 Project and encompassed the same scope and site location as the Phase 12 portion of the project. A letter of concurrence was issued on January 20, 2012, stating that the authorization to proceed and the finding of no significant impact issued for the Beulah/Zap Phase 12 Project remained valid for Phases 13 and 14 of the project.

AMLIS status: Completion data entered 01/10/2013

Public Outreach: Last public meeting was 01/28/2009, ROE's Mercer County

Innovative Actions: Approximately 36 dangerous sinkholes were filled under force account provisions of this contract. Drilling and grouting locations were surveyed with RTK. Grout barrier walls were constructed to keep grout in the target areas.

The 2012 Beulah/Zap Phase 13 Project was conducted to drill holes into underground mine workings beneath public roads and to pump grout into those mine workings in order to stabilize the surface from collapse and subsidence. Dangerous sinkholes have occurred around Beulah and are a serious hazard to the public especially when they occur in high use areas like public roads and residential areas. This was the 13<sup>th</sup> year of this project series designed to stabilize undermined sites in high-use areas near Beulah and Zap.



*This photo shows grouting operations along Mercer County Highway 21 North..*

The following is a summary of smaller projects completed during EY2013:

**2012 Sinkhole Filling Project**

Approximately 41 dangerous sinkholes were filled on ten properties near the cities of Haynes, Dickinson, Wilton, Velva and Baldwin, North Dakota. This project was

conducted October 30 to November 27, 2012, at a cost of \$61,772.75. A project summary was mailed to interested parties and is on file with the AML Division.

Sinkhole filling projects such as this have been conducted annually in North Dakota and will likely continue into the foreseeable future.



*This newly opened sinkhole was flagged during the OSM site visit at the Wilton AML site.*

#### **2012 Columbus Interpretive Display**

A public interpretive display about historic mining and AML reclamation was constructed near Columbus, ND. This work was required by an MOA as mitigation for inadvertent adverse effects on historic sites caused by reclamation of the Columbus AML site. This project was conducted August 10, 2011 to November 20, 2012, at a cost of \$7,016. A project summary was mailed to interested parties and is on file with the AML Division.



*This photo shows the Columbus Interpretive Display located at the city Park in Columbus, ND. The display illustrates the history and impact of mining near Columbus.*

### **2012 Coal Fire Suppression Project**

Four coal seam fires were extinguished on US Forest Service property in Slope and McKenzie Counties. This project was conducted December 5-23, 2012 at a cost of \$35,000. A project summary was mailed to interested parties and is on file with the AML Division.

The objective of the 2012 Coal Fire Suppression Project was to extinguish or suppress dangerous coal seam fires on the US Forest Service Little Missouri national Grasslands in western North Dakota. Upon request by US Forest Service personnel, specially designated funds for coal outcrop fire suppression were requested on July 6, 2012, from OSM. A grant for \$35,000 was approved by OSM on July 30, 2012. Work began December 5 and was completed December 23, 2012.



*This photo shows work in progress to extinguish the Horseshoe Creek 3 Coal Seam Fire in McKenzie County.*

No projects are currently awaiting closeout. No emergency projects were conducted during EY2013.

The following is a summary of construction ready projects. These are estimates of project areas for which information is available for preliminary project design.

**Construction Ready Projects May 2013**

<b>Project Site</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Environmental Benefits</b>
Beulah/Zap	\$1,800,000	Subsidence Prevention, Public Safety
Richter (Glen Ullin)	\$600,000	Dangerous Highwall Elimination, Public Safety

Havelock (2 Sites)	\$500,000	Dangerous Highwall Elimination, Public Safety
Hazen-West Ph3 and Beulah (Leroy Walker)	\$2,000,000	Dangerous Highwall Elimination, Public Safety
Columbus/Larson	\$500,000	Dangerous Highwall Elimination, Public Safety
Exploratory Drilling & Site Investigation	\$300,000	Reclamation Preparation
Scranton-Bowman Reeder	\$1,000,000	Subsidence Prevention, Public Safety
Wilton Multiple Areas	\$1,000,000	Subsidence Prevention, Public Safety
Garrison	\$500,000	Subsidence Prevention, Public Safety
Noonan	\$500,000	Subsidence Prevention, Public Safety
Maintenance	\$300,000	Sinkhole Filling, Site Repair, Tree Planting
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,000,000</b>	<b>Restoration of Land and Public Safety</b>

## 2. AML Emergency Investigations and Abatement Efforts

No AML Emergency Investigations or Abatement Efforts were conducted during EY2013.

## 3. AML Grant Fiscal and Administrative Controls

When OSM receives a grant application from ND AML, OSM staff review the application package to determine compliance with programmatic requirements. This review ensures that the application meets the requirements set forth in the Federal Assistance Manual (FAM) Part 1-120-30B including the completion of forms SF-242 (Application for Federal Assistance), OSM-51 (or an equivalent program narrative), OSM-47 (or alternative format itemized budget), and Assurances Form SF-424D as appropriate. Prior to approval, OSM must review the application to determine whether the State can accomplish the proposed goals in the manner and timeframe provided, and whether the State can manage the projects in compliance with federal laws and regulations. Section 1-150-30 of the FAM also prescribes how OSM will monitor program performance.

North Dakota AMLD was allocated \$3,921,596 dollars for their fiscal year 2012 grant period, beginning March 1, 2012. Grant No. GR207380 began on March 1, 2012 and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2015.

North Dakota AMLD was allocated \$3,521,731 dollars for their fiscal year 2013 grant period, beginning March 1, 2013. Grant No. GR307380 began on March 1, 2013 and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2016. This amount represents 90 percent of the funding that would normally be available, because 10 percent was held back pending potential sequester. This total also does not include any Emergency Program funding. All projects conducted during the grant periods are anticipated to involve the reclamation of abandoned surface and underground coal mines.

ND PSC maintains a very cost effective program with 11.3% of the grant dedicated to Administrative Costs. The remainder of the grant is spent on project design and construction. The grant funding and expenditures are broken down as follows:

**Table 1. AML Consolidated Grant Funding and Expenditures**

2012 AML Consolidated Grant	
Prior Balance Replacement Funds	\$1,988,747
State and Tribal Share	\$1,248,811
Historic Coal Funds	<u>\$684,038</u>
Total	\$3,921,596
Grant Line Item Budgets	
Administrative Costs	\$441,212
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$3,480,384</u>
Total	\$3,921,596
2013 AML Consolidated Grant	
Prior Balance Replacement Funds	\$1,789,872
State Share	\$1,144,622
Historic Coal Funds	<u>\$587,237</u>
Total	\$3,521,731
Grant Line Item Budgets	
Administrative Costs	\$396,778
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$3,124,953</u>
Total	\$3,521,731

#### **4. Evaluation of Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (AMLIS)**

Our EY2013 evaluation of AMLIS determined if the information the State entered into AMLIS agrees with information in its files. This topic was mandated for review due to a September, 2004 report issued by Interior's Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The report criticized the accuracy of AMLIS data, based on the OIG review of AMLIS data for four eastern States' AML programs. The OIG's review concluded that AMLIS data did not match data in those States' files and recommended establishing "a quality control system that ensures that States, Tribes, and OSM, as applicable, review and certify the

accuracy of data entered into AMLIS.” In response to the OIG’s recommendation, OSM required its field offices to implement two requirements. The first requirement is to “assure that each State and Indian Tribe AML program has procedures in place to ensure and certify the accuracy of data entered into AMLIS” as part of the FY2004 oversight (subsequently changed to FY2005). OSM Headquarters subsequently advised field offices to drop the certification requirement. As a result, the focus is to make sure States and Tribes have requisite systems in place. The CAO has determined North Dakota has such a system in place that is adequate to ensure accurate data is entered into AMLIS.

The second requirement implemented by OSM in response to the OIG’s recommendation stated, “[o]nce these State and Indian Tribe procedures are in place, OSM will annually review a random sample of [PADs] to see if the information entered into AMLIS agrees with the information in the PAD.” As a result, the focus is to make sure the data States and Tribes entered into AMLIS PADs (an integral part of AMLIS) agrees with the information in their files. The evaluation goal was to determine if the information North Dakota enters into AMLIS, for projects completed during the evaluation year, agrees with information in its files.

The North Dakota AMLD compiles data from various sources for input into AMLIS. These sources include project information spreadsheets, project diaries, close-out reports to the PSC and meeting minutes from PSC-approved payment of contractor invoices. Data pertaining to emergency projects include procurement and contract data compiled in Project Summary Books, site-specific project data and site photographs. Project completion data is tracked on an EXCEL spreadsheet. Information in the spreadsheet includes project name, location, contract number, contractor, year of contract, year of completion, cost and method of reclamation.

Information entered into AMLIS is performed by designated Project Managers on the AMLD staff. This information is based on the above-mentioned data sources. Since AMLIS data is not intended to include maintenance project information, maintenance project data is housed in a separate location from other project data. The AMLD keeps records of maintenance projects in a separate booklet describing procurement, contracting, scope of work and photographs for each of the maintenance projects.

Completion information entered into AMLIS for the total number of projects completed during the evaluation year was analyzed and compared to the information contained within the AMLD files.

We concluded the information North Dakota AMLD entered into AMLIS for completed projects agrees with the information in its files.

## VI. Tables

### Summary of Core Data to Characterize the North Dakota Abandoned Mine Lands Program

Table 1 – (North Dakota) Status of AML Inventory all Priority 1, 2, and 3 Hazards on June 30, 2013					
	High Priority		Elevated Priority 3	Stand-Alone Priority 3 (Not adjacent or in conjunction w/ P1&2)	Total
	Priority 1	Priority 2			
<b>UNFUNDED</b>					
GPRAs Acres	0	4151.87	N/A	122.00	4273.87
Dollars	0	38,874,417.00	N/A	425,000.00	39,299,417.00
<b>FUNDED</b>					
GPRAs Acres	0	0	0	0	0
Dollars	0	0	0	0	0
<b>COMPLETED</b>					
GPRAs Acres	259.38	3,501.90	0	0	3,761.28
Dollars	3,177,240.00	39,205,539.00	0	0	42,382,779.00



**Table 3 - (North Dakota)**  
**Accomplishments in Eliminating Environmental Problems**  
**Related to Past Mining Priority 3 and SMCRA section 403(b) Hazards (As of June 30, 2013)**

		PROBLEM TYPE (keyword)														
		Bench , Solid Bench, Fill Bench (BE) (acres)	Industrial/Residential Waste Dump (DP) (acres)	Equipment and Facilities (EF) (count)	Gob (GO) (acres)	Highwall (H) (feet)	Haul Road (HR) (acres)	Mine Opening (MO) (count)	Pit, Open Pit, Strip Pit (PI) (acres)	Spoil, Spoil Bank (SA) (acres)	Slurry (SL) (acres)	Slump (SP) (acres)	Water (WA) (gallons)	Other (specify)	Water Supplies (WS) – Section 403(b) (count)	TOTAL
<b>UNRECLAIMED/REMAINING HAZARDS (Unfunded)</b>																
Units		1		1						11					1	122
GPR& Acres		1		1						0					1	122
Dollars		1,500		5,000						388,500					30,000	425,000
<b>ANNUAL RECLAMATION - EY2013 only (Completed)</b>																
Units																0
GPR& Acres																0
Dollars																0
<b>HISTORICAL RECLAMATION - EY1978 - 2013 (Completed)</b>																
Units		0		0						0					0	0
GPR& Acres		0		0						0					0	0
Dollars		0		0						0					0	0

**Table 4 – North Dakota Public Well-Being Enhancement  
All Priority 1, 2, and 3 AML projects completed during  
EY 2013**

#	PAD Number	Project Name	Problem Type(s) Reclaimed	GPRA Acres	Cost	Number of People with Reduced Exposure Potential (State Estimated /or/ Census Data)
1	ND000031	Columbus Ph 13 & 14	DH	200	1,383,523	200
2	ND000014	Beulah/Zap Ph 13	S	5	759,763	2,700
3						
4						
TOTAL				205	2,143,286	2,900

**Table 5 – (North Dakota) - Partnership Financial Resources Dedicated to Protecting the Public from Adverse Effects of Past Mining AML projects completed during EY 2013**

#	PAD Number	Project Name	SMCRA Program Funding Source	Total SMCRA funding	Alternate Non-SMCRA Funding Source	Total non-SMCRA Funding	In-Kind Services	Total Project Funding	Comments
1	N/A								
TOTAL									

**Table 6 – (North Dakota) – Reclamation Projects Started and/or Completed (AML projects started and/or Completed during EY 2013)**

Project Type	Projects Started	Projects Completed
North Dakota (EY 2013):	11	6
Total (EY 2013):	11	6

**Table 7 – (North Dakota) – AML Program Grant Awards and Staffing (North Dakota) AML Program Grant Awards and Staffing (During EY 2013)**

<b>AML Program Costs</b>	
Administration	396,778
Construction	747,844
Water Supply Construction	0
AMD Set-Aside	0
Other(s) Historic Coal Funds	587,237
Other(s) Prior Balance Replacement Funds (Historic Coal Funds)	1,789,872
<b>Total AML Funding</b>	<b>3,521,731</b>
<b>AML Program Staffing (full-time equivalents on June 30, 2013):</b>	<b>4.55</b>

## **VII. Comments**

A draft copy of this report was sent to the NDPSC on September 30<sup>th</sup>, just prior to the government shutdown on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The NDPSC responded with comments on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Those comments included several minor corrections with suggestions for revised wording, including a correction to the 2013 AML consolidated grant distribution. NDPSC also pointed out that the North Dakota AML program has no record addressing any non-coal problems.