CLINTON SOUTHEAST
PIT RADAR TOWER SPOIL FIRE
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project
Contract No. OSM 02(0351)102.1

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Rachel Carson State Office Building, 13th Floor
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ACTIVE AND ABANDONED MINE OPERATIONS
BUREAU OF ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION

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ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION PROJECT
CONTRACT NO. OSM 02(0351)102.1

FACT SHEET 1 of 2

Location: The site is located approximately 1,000 feet southwest of the Pittsburgh International Airport’s runways in an area bounded on three sides by US Route 30, PA Route 576, and I 376. From downtown Pittsburgh take I 376 toward the airport, and take Exit 56 to McClaren Road. Turn left and proceed 1.3 miles, then continue 1.5 miles on Main Street. Turn slight right on U.S. 30 West. Take 2nd right on Cummings Road (Gate QQQ). Proceed 0.8 miles, then turn left on access road (Emperial Point Road) and proceed for 0.4 miles to the site. U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute Topographic Quadrangle Map: Clinton, PA. LATITUDE 40° 28’ 28”, LONGITUDE -80° 15’ 52”

Watershed: Ohio River watershed, (Montour Run, Unnamed Tributary)

Official Start Date: August 28, 2014

Contract Completion Date: April 6, 2015

Contractor: Earthmovers Unlimited, Inc., PO Box 187, Kylertown, PA 16847

Property Owners: County of Allegheny/Allegheny County Airport Authority
Landside Terminal, 4th Floor Mezz.
PO Box 12370
Pittsburgh, PA 15231-0370

Project Cost: $1,294,159.80 (Final Amount); $1,454,820.00 (Bid Amount)

Project Area: 12.2 Acres

Purpose: To eliminate public health and safety hazards caused by a subsurface fire burning in abandoned coal mine spoil piles and by a dangerous highwall adjacent to the burning spoil materials. Smoke from this fire threatens visibility for air and road traffic. The fire poses a continuing risk to a nearby airport radar facility, to a major underground gas pipeline, and to surrounding forest resources, infrastructure, and inhabitants, should it continue to burn and spread to the 240 acres of mine spoil materials contiguous to the current site.

This project follows on the completion of a 2012 accelerated response project, under Contract No. OSM 02(0351)101.1, that completed an isolation trench. The trench currently provides a temporary barrier to the fire spreading beyond its present location, while this project is undertaken.
FACT SHEET 2 of 2

Description:
The project involved excavating approximately 430,000 cubic yards of mine spoil and extinguishing all the burning materials, backfilling approximately 1,400 feet of combined highwall and trench, grading the entire site to stable grades, reconstructing a gravel access road across the site, and cultivating an herbaceous cover to resist erosion.

The project reclaimed approximately 12.2 acres in the Ohio River watershed (Montour Run, Un-named Tributary).

Funding:
Pennsylvania's Abandoned Mine Land Grant

Project Management:
Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Harrisburg Office
717.783.2267

Accomplishments:

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AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature
SB = Surface Burning
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Location Map

PIT RADAR TOWER SPOIL FIRE - BIRDSEYE AERIAL PHOTO
09/11/2013 - Smoke emanates from spoil pile with trench and forest beyond

09/11/2013 - Sulfurous deposits and charred debris around vent holes
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During Construction

01/09/2015 - Excavation of project site

01/13/2015 - Excavation of project site
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Post-Construction

04/02/2015 - Seeding complete

04/02/2015 - Seeding complete
Pre-reclamation view of the refuse piles, facing southeast towards the radar tower.

Post-reclamation view, facing southeast towards the radar tower.