



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

ELCO-ALLENPORT

Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project

Contract No. OSM 63(1522)101.1 EMER

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

286 Industrial Park Road

Ebensburg, PA 15931-4119

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ACTIVE AND ABANDONED MINE OPERATIONS
BUREAU OF ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION**

**ELCO-ALLENPORT
ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION PROJECT
CONTRACT NO. OSM 63(1522)101.1 EMER**

FACT SHEET

Location: The project site is located in California Borough, Washington County. From 1-76W, take Exit 75 for 1-70W toward Wheeling, WV. Continue on I-70W for 20 miles. Take Exit 37A to merge onto PA-43S toward California/Toll Road. Take Exit 34 toward Elco. Turn left onto Elco Hill Road and continue for a half mile. The site is accessed from a railroad access road on the right.

Watershed: Monongahela River, Warm Water Fishes (WWF)

Official Start Date: July 5, 2018

Contract Completion Date: August 1, 2018

Contractor: Earth Support Services, Inc.

Property Owners: Consolidated Coal Company
1000 Consol Energy Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Project Cost: \$98,159.24 (Final Amount), \$83,450 (Bid Amount)

Project Area: 2 Portals, 3 Hazardous Equipment or Facilities (HEF) structures

Purpose: To eliminate eligible abandoned mine public health and safety hazards that are located within close proximity to places of intense visitation of humans

Description: The Elco-Allenport project was an emergency contract to reclaim an abandoned mine site that contained two (2) pre-act abandoned mine land features (AMLFs). These features were located within Problem Area 1522 (PA 1522), which is found on the California 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle AML Inventory Map. The AML features included in this project were the direct result of deep mining of coal by the Bell Coal Company prior to 1936. This project eliminated two mine openings and three hazardous abandoned mine structures in California Borough. The first mine opening measured 8 feet wide by 5 feet high and allowed access into the abandoned mine workings from the inside of an abandoned mine structure. The other opening was 2 feet by 2 feet and was located within a drift entry that was previously sealed off

with a poured concrete wall that had been vandalized, causing the opening. The largest structure was a concrete and brick building measuring 50 feet long by 12 feet wide by 10 feet high. The 8-foot by 5-foot opening described previously was located inside this structure. The other two structures were drift entries, each measuring 16 feet wide by 7 feet high by 30 feet horizontal depth. The two drift entries were located about 75 feet from the large structure described previously. One of these drift entries had been sealed with concrete but a 2-foot by 2-foot hole had been punched out that allowed access to the mine. The other drift entry had collapsed and was not open to the mine. The RESA Regional Police force in Washington County was concerned that local youths were frequenting this site and entering the mine workings and could be killed or seriously injured if the entries or structures were to collapse. These features were located less than 500 feet from one home and less than 1,000 feet from State Route 88 and three other homes. Local youth were utilizing the Norfolk Southern railroad to access the site from State Route 88. With all AMLFs barricaded and filled in with cement, access into the dangerous underground mine has been eliminated. These AMLFs meet Office of Surface Mining's Priority 2 safety criteria. It was originally assumed that bats were accessing the mine through the openings and that bat gates would need to be installed to preserve a potential bat habitat. But, once construction began the installation of bat gates were eliminated due to low oxygen readings of the mine air. In addition to poor air quality to support any bat habitat, discharging acid mine drainage also lessened the potential of bat habitat.

Funding: Pennsylvania's Abandoned Mine Land Grant

Project Management: Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Cambria District Office
814.472.1800

Accomplishments:

PRIORITY	AMLF #	AMLF KEYWORD	MEASUREMENTS						QUANTITY	UNIT
			ACRES	HEIGHT	LENGTH	COUNT	VOL.	FLOW		
1	1552-08	P	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	Count
1	1522-09	HEF	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	Count

AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature
P = Portal
HEF = Hazardous Equipment Facility

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Location Map

Elco-Allenport
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California Borough
Washington County



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Pre-Construction



First hazardous abandoned mine structure



Mine opening within the first hazardous abandoned mine structure

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Pre-Construction



Second hazardous abandoned mine structure



Mine opening within the second hazardous abandoned mine structure

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Pre-Construction



Third hazardous abandoned mine structure

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During Construction



Form and barricade work

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During Construction



Form and barricade work

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During Construction



Cement preparation work



Cement placement work

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Post Construction



Barricaded first hazardous abandoned mine structure

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Post Construction



Barricaded second hazardous abandoned mine structure



Barricaded third hazardous abandoned mine structure