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

WESTLAND
ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION PROJECT
CONTRACT NO. OSM 63(4471)101.1

FACT SHEET

Location: The project site is located in Chartiers Township, Washington County. The site can be accessed from the Interstate 79 (I-79), Houston Exit No. 43 for Pennsylvania State Road (S.R. 519). At the end of exit ramp turn left and travel west on S.R. 519 for 4.5 miles to the intersection of Ullom Road. Turn left on to Ullom Road and after traveling 0.7 miles, the project site is located on the right side of Ullom Road.

Watershed: Chartiers Run, Warm Water Fishes (WWF) and Unnamed Tributary to Chartiers Run, Warm Water Fishes (WWF)

Official Start Date: August 7, 2016

Contract Completion Date: September 12, 2017

Contractor: Berner Construction, Inc.

Property Owners: Thomas Kotyk and Todd Kotyk
401 Forrest Avenue
Houston, PA 15342

Project Cost: $993,134 (Final Amount). $1,023,703.30 (Bid Amount)

Project Area: 56 Acres

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 Westland project eliminated two dangerous highwalls that were in excess of 30 feet high and at a combined length of over 4,100 linear feet. The adjacent parent spoil pile areas were utilized to backfill and reclaim each of the dangerous highwalls. The site was easily accessible from Ullom Road, a township road, and from an active gas pipeline right-of-way that was accessible from Westland Road. Five residential structures were located within 500 feet of the project site. The Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA) method was utilized for the rough grading backfill and tree planting of over 16,500 tree seedlings. The FRA grading method also promoted stormwater infiltration as a best management practice (BMP) to prevent soil erosion. The end result of the FRA method provided a final irregular rough grade
of hummocky mounds and deep-tilled depressions that will provide for an excellent tree growth condition for years to come. These dangerous abandoned mine features were located within Problem Area 4471 (PA 4471), which is referenced within the Midway 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle Map. This dangerous condition was a direct result of surface mining performed in the late 1960s by the Pittsburgh Coal Company. These dangerous abandoned mine features qualified for the Office of Surface Mining’s (OSM’s) Priority 2 safety criteria.

**Funding:**
AMLNW: Title IV – Non-Water Projects

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

A total of 16,500 tree seedlings were planted at the project site, consisting of Sugar Maple, Black Cherry, Red Oak, American Red Bud and the American Chestnut Hybrid. Tree seedling planting was done using the Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA).

**Accomplishments:**

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AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature
DH = Dangerous Highwall
SA = Spoil Area
L.F. = Linear Foot
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Location Map

Westland
OSM 63(4471)101.1
Chartiers Township
Washington County
During Construction
Post-Construction