

AGGREGATE ADVISORY BOARD (BOARD)
Wednesday, May 20, 2026
Hybrid Meeting (via Microsoft Teams)

VOTING MEMBERS OR ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Paul Detwiler, III (Member – New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc.)
R. Timothy Weston (Member – K & L Gates, LLP / CAC)
Kristen Marcell (Member – PA House of Representatives)
Ian Irvin (Alternate – CAC)
Andrew Gutshall (Alternate – Heidelberg Materials Group)
D. Michael Hawbaker (Alternate – Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.)
Maria Gereda (Alternate – Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR))
Emily Eyster (Alternate – PA Senate)
Matthew Osenbach (Alternate – PA Senate)
Glendon King (Alternate – PA House of Representatives)
Evan Franzese (Alternate – PA House of Representatives)

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Greg Greenfield (DEP Bureau of Mining Programs (BMP))
Sharon Hill (DEP – BMP)
Laura Mensch (DEP – BMP)
Rachel Colyer (DEP – BMP)
Daniel E. Snowden, D.Ed. (DEP – BMP/Board Liaison)
Jolie Mangan (DEP – BMP)
Christopher Stewart (DEP – BMP)
Marissa Kovach (DEP – BMP)
Alexandra Eberly (DEP – BMP)
Emily Fisher (DEP – BMP)
Bradley Rhodes (DEP – BMP)
Amy Berrios (DEP - Active and Abandoned Mine Operations (AAMO))
Justin Dula (DEP – Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ))
Laura Campbell (DEP – Policy Office)
Trent Machamer (Guest – PA Senate)
Jeffrey Icivic (Guest – PA Senate)
Andrew McMenamin (Guest – PA House of Representatives)
Michael Clark (Guest – New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc.)
Seth Grove (Guest – PACA)
Christopher Masciantonio (Guest – The Masciantonio Firm)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Paul Detweiler, III, who was chairing the meeting on behalf of Nathan Houtz today.

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Board members and Alternates answered a roll call to determine a quorum, facilitated by Daniel Snowden.

PACA ANTI-TRUST STATEMENT

The Board reaffirmed its adherence to PACA's anti-trust statement and confidentiality policies. This requirement extends to industry members and alternates on the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The February 18, 2026 meeting minutes were voted upon and approved, with no opposition.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Snowden reported that the State Conservation Commission for the Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR) has appointed Maria Gereda to serve as the alternate for Board member Robert Hughes. Additionally, he noted that the PA State House has appointed Evan Franzese to serve as the alternate for Representative Greg Vitali.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments submitted to the board for this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Detweiler reported that the Board's Regulatory, Legislative and Technical (RLT) Committee did not have any meetings, and there was nothing to update or share.

DELIVERABLES

Greg Greenfield, BMP Director, stated that there were no deliverables for this meeting.

BUREAU OF MINING PROGRAMS (BMP) UPDATES

The Board was provided with updates from Sharon Hill and Laura Mensch on the following topics:

- **Applications Breakdown**

Sharon Hill provided the Board with information regarding the distribution of applications across the District Mining Offices (DMOs). She noted that the increase in applications, especially for the Pottsville DMO, were due to the GP104 stormwater NPDES permit renewals. Ms. Hill indicated the application numbers for these only represented noncoal, but that there were also considerable renewals for coal sites that added to the DMO workloads during this time. In regard to the April 30, 2026 numbers showing 90 renewals being processed, Ms. Hill stated that these are down to about 64 renewals as of today's Board meeting date. She noted that staff did a fine job of getting those out on time and anticipates those to be completed by the end of the quarter.

The Board requested that the line for withdrawals and denials be placed back on the chart going forward, if possible. Ms. Hill stated that she would show those on the next update and clarified that those numbers are low (usually only one or two), most often small noncoal.

The Board also requested information be shown on average time of issuance. Ms. Hill stated that she would work to include that information for the next meeting as well. She did want to make sure that the Board understood that each application is different: some get processed

very quickly, while others take more time, and usually for a variety of reasons (e.g., one application being associated with another, bond requested, etc.).

- **Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Agendas**

Ms. Hill reported that there was nothing on the regulatory or non-regulatory agendas currently. She did mention that the Noncoal Civil Penalty assessment was out for public comment, though that comment period is now closed.

The draft Water Supply Replacement Technical Guidance Document (TGD) is being completed, and Ms. Hill anticipated that this document may be ready to discuss this year. She assured the Board that it would be shared with the Board first for review before it goes for public comment.

- **Permitting Applications and Revisions**

Ms. Hill mentioned the GP-103 (short-term construction permits) were put into the Streamlining Permits for the Economic Expansion and Development (SPEED) Program, but no qualified professionals have applied to review those permits, so it is not active at the moment. Not many GP-103s come in for review. She shared that the program is always looking at what can be done to streamline permit review time outside the SPEED program that doesn't require an applicant to pay extra.

Ms. Hill then shared information about the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit renewals for noncoal. Because noncoal mining permits are not required to be renewed every 5 years like coal permits are, the program confirmed there is no requirement for the NPDES renewal application notice to be published in a newspaper. NPDES renewals are published by the Department in the PA Bulletin as received, the draft permit is published for public notice, per the Chapter 92A regulations, and published when issued.

- **Bonding and Bond Forfeitures**

Laura Mensch reported there are a total of eleven small noncoal forfeitures, one each in Wayne, Wyoming and Lackawanna Counties, and eight in Susquehanna County. She indicated that this represents just a few permittees across multiple permits, reflecting a continued effort to clean up sites that have not been operating.

The current Noncoal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (NCSMCRA) fund obligations were then reviewed for the Board. Ms. Mensch indicated that these have been up slightly since last quarter.

Ms. Mensch then pointed out the total amount of bonds underwritten in the Payment In-Lieu of Bond (PILB) program, which was slightly down from last quarter, the numbers reflected are as of March 31, 2026.

The General Operations Fund revenue and expenditures were reviewed, as were the cash collateral bonds held by the Department, before the restricted bond amount shown in the handout presented to the Board for this meeting.

Ms. Mensch then reviewed the amount generated into the Clean Water Program (CWP) mining fee revenue, showing the current fiscal year, July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, which is the revenue that mining has contributed. The last page of the handout shows a graph comparing the revenue versus expenditures.

The Board did have a question about the Governor's Budget book from 2025, as they referred to it, noting the 2025 through 2027 expenditures increasing from \$2 million to almost \$4 million for 2026 and 2027, and wished to have this clarified.

Mr. Greenfield explained that there was an Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Hard Rock Fund created at the federal level, under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), for which no funding was allocated to that program in the first year. In the following two fiscal years, a small amount of money was allocated to the program, where any program in the country that had a noncoal program with bond forfeitures or abandoned sites could apply for the money, similar to how the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation's (BAMR) AML grant works. When the program's application was submitted, the federal government changed the program so that if you have a coal AML program, their program will not let you qualify. Western states with no coal AML were concerned that states like Pennsylvania and West Virginia might be "double-dipping", so the project was put on hold, and the money the program had put aside was rolled into next year. Mr. Greenfield stated that there seems to be a timing issue, but that the goal is to hopefully be able to get the federal money to help offset the reclamation costs going forward.

UPDATE FROM BUREAU DISTRICT MINING OPERATIONS (BDMO)

There were no updates to provide for the District Mining Operations for this meeting.

DEP ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POLICY

Justin Dula, from the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ), presented information about the mission to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water, following science and best practices to ensure the health of present and future Pennsylvanians.

The history of environmental justice (EJ) going back to the Civil Rights movement and before, starting with Warren County here in the Commonwealth, where the term environmental racism was coined, from the discovery of a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) facility in a rural African American community.

DEP has had an EJ policy since 2004, and in 2021, Governor Wolf signed an executive order formally establishing the Office of Environmental Justice and creating an Environmental Justice Advisory Board.

Mr. Dula acknowledged that the OEJ had first presented this policy to the Board in 2023, and that the final publication was on January 3, 2026, after an extensive comment and response period. He indicated that they wished to reiterate that the values of this policy include environmental stewardship, public service (providing the resources to people to eliminate barriers to equity), continuous improvement and accountability.

Mr. Dula reviewed the nine sections of the EJ policy for the Board, to help them understand it better. The first two sections introduce the policy and define it. The third section is where the policy is applied, through review of factors to determine an overall score based on a census block group. Thirty-two individual factors (e.g., pollution burden, environmental exposure and effects, health related population characteristics and socioeconomic population vulnerabilities), are calculated to determine the overall score, and help researchers as well as make determinations in the grant process. The fourth section is proactive community engagement, where EJ coordinators in each region reach out to community members early in the process to build trust with DEP by having open office hours and attending community meetings to be a sounding board, and to help before a permit application is submitted. Section five is the enhanced public participation process, the work the DEP has been doing under the EJ policy since 2004. Section six is inspections, compliance and enforcement, while Section seven relates to community development and investment, targeting grant programs. Section eight focuses on DEP's climate initiatives under the PA Climate Action Plan, where EJ is integrated, and Section nine relates to policy updates, which will be reviewed at least every five years to ensure it is remaining active.

Mr. Dula mentioned that there is a newsletter subscription, and people can use the outreach self-enroll form to indicate topics and concerns for further follow-up with specific information from the OEJ. The Board asked him to provide, if he could, information on how this EJ policy might affect the noncoal mining projects, and whether it had any significant effect on the mine permit application review process. Mr. Dula stated that he would look into this matter for the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Board.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

A motion to adjourn was unanimously accepted by the Board. The meeting concluded at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting scheduled is to be held on August 19, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room 105 of the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg and, via Microsoft Teams.