

Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

HAZLETON AIRPORT Abandoned Mine Reclamation Contract No. OSM 40(3211)101.1

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation 2 Public Square, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1915

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

#### HAZLETON AIRPORT ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION PROJECT CONTRACT NO. OSM 40(3211)101.1

#### **FACT SHEET**

**Location:** The site is located at the intersection of Route 309 and the Airport

Beltway, and is approximately 1.5 miles north of Hazleton. LAT. (40° 59' 38.44") LONG. (-75° 59' 17.42") (from ArcMap). Hazleton, PA Quad. Site is in Hazle Township, Luzerne County.

Watershed: Nescopeck Creek, Trout Stocking Fishes (TSF) & Migratory

Fishes (MF)

**Official Start Date:** June 18, 2015

**Contract Completion Date:** June 31, 2017

**Contractor:** James T. O'Hara, Inc.

Covington Township, PA

**Property Owners:** Pasco Schiavo, McCarthy Tire Service Co., Consolidated Lands,

Inc., Frank Tedesco, Brian and Ellen Farleigh

**Project Cost:** \$4,092,648 (Bid Amount); \$4,073,413.14 (Final Amount)

**Project Area:** 67 acres

**Purpose:** To eliminate public health and safety hazards by excavating,

backfilling and grading abandoned mine lands in Hazle Township,

Luzerne County.

**Description:** Including two borrow sites, 67 acres of abandoned mine lands were

reclaimed. Approximately 1500 feet of dangerous highwall was reclaimed which was considered a priority 1 hazard due to the highwall height of 100 feet and the close proximity to residential and commercial property. The project also eliminated 14 acres of inventoried dangerous spoil piles and embankments, with the material being utilized in backfilling the highwall and associated

strip mine pit.

A dearth of material in these immediately adjacent spoil piles required material to be acquired from borrow sites. The first borrow site required coordination with the Blaschak Coal Corp. to allow BAMR to remove all of the spoil material piled at the Penny's Bank (SMP #40840202) mining permit area, conditionally upon BAMR regrading and revegetating all of the area affected to the satisfaction of the DEP Pottsville District Mining Office. The second borrow site required coordination with Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. to remove spoil material piled at the Latimer Basin (SMP #40930102) mining permit area, conditionally upon BAMR regrading and revegetating all of the area affected to the satisfaction of the DEP Pottsville District Mining Office. In all, approximately 717,000 of the total 1.1 million cubic yards of material needed to complete reclamation were safely transported from the borrow areas across Route 309 in coordination with PA DOT.

Local storm water runoff conditions required the design to include a significant runoff retention feature, and a retention/infiltration basin with several rock-lined ditches had to be constructed where a portion of the mine pit was being backfilled. Furthermore, to achieve the final grades in the pit area, almost 50,000 cubic yards of bedrock had to be ripped and moved. The ripped material, along with segregated granular materials from the spoil and borrow, was placed in the pit area beneath the intended retention basin to facilitate storm water infiltration.

These dangerous abandoned mine features were located within Problem Area 3211 (PA 3211) which is referenced within the Hazleton 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle Map. This hazardous condition was a direct result of surface mining performed prior to 1929 by Pardee Brothers mining the Mammoth Coal Seam. Storm water drainage ditches were constructed and the completed project area was seeded with a grass and legume mix.

**Funding:** 

Pennsylvania's Abandoned Mine Land Grant

**Project Management:** 

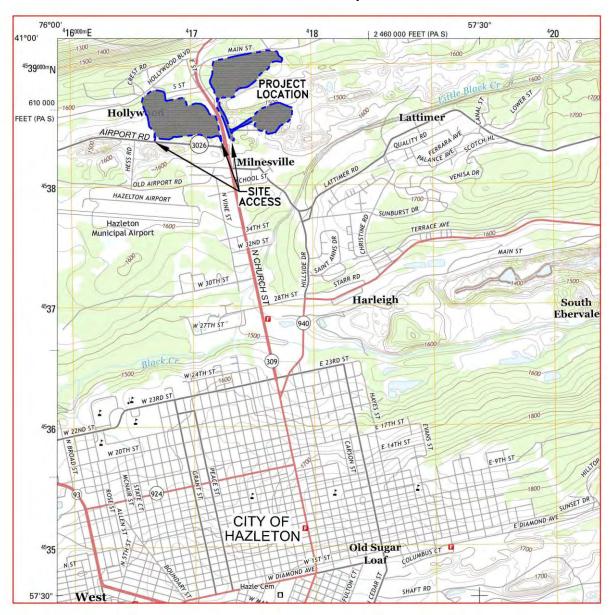
Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation Wilkes-Barre District Office 570.826.2371

#### **Accomplishments:**

Y		AMLF KEYWORD	MEASUREMENTS						Y	
PRIORIT	AMLF#		ACRES	HEIGHL	LENGTH	COUNT	TOA	FLOW	QUANTIT	UNIT
1	1	DH	1	100	1500	-	-	-		
2	11	DPE	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	

AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature

#### Location Map

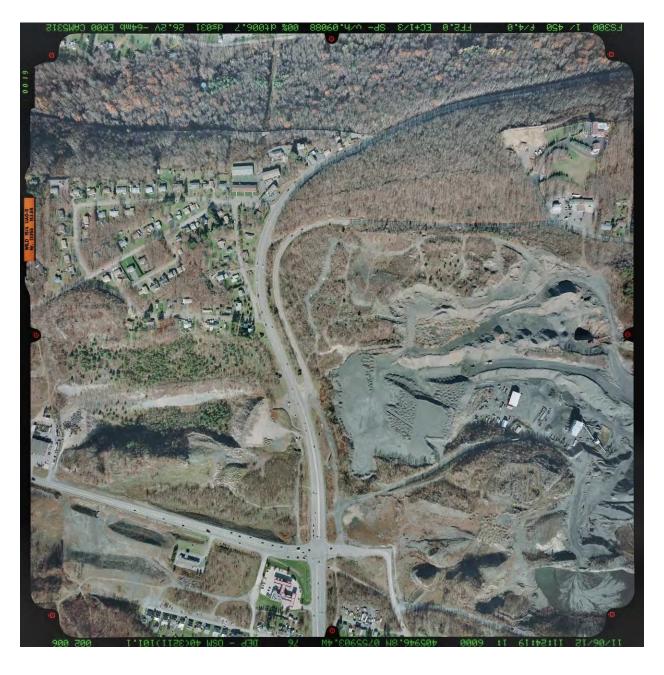


VICINITY MAP

USGS HAZELTON QUADRANGLE MAP

SCALE 1 IN. = 2000 FT.

# Aerial Photo



# Pre-Construction



Photo of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking to the west.



Photo of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking north at northern highwall. Part of Dangerous Pile Embankment#11 is visible on top of highwall.

### Pre-Construction



Photo of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking to east.



Looking south at Borrow areas, Grading Area #3 and #4

# **During Construction**



Photo of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking to west.



View easterly at abandoned strip pit partially reclaimed.

# **During Construction**



Backfilling of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking northwest.



View south at excavation of Grading Area No.3.

# **During Construction**



Photo of Dangerous Highwall #1 looking to the east.



Looking south at Borrow areas, Grading Area #3 and #4

#### Post Construction



Reclaimed Dangerous Highwall #1 looking southeast.



View east at Grading Area No.3.

#### Post Construction



Reclaimed Dangerous Highwall #1 looking to the east.



Looking south at Reclaimed Borrow areas, Grading Area #3 and #4