


# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Abandoned Mine Lands Division

## Memorandum

TO: Commissioners Clark, Kalk and Cramer  
Darrell Nitschke  
Illona A. Jeffcoat-Sacco

From: Jim  Deutsch, Director - AML Division

Date: October 7, 2011

Subject: Contract for AML's 2011 sinkhole filling project

In late August the AML Division prepared an Invitation for Bids for the 2011 Sinkhole Filling project. This project involves filling sinkholes caused from abandoned underground mines at ten locations in western North Dakota and includes a contingency item for sinkhole filling at up to five additional sites. As you know, we received an abnormally high number of calls this year from landowners about new sinkholes that have developed. The bid opening was scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> but no bids were received by that date. The solicitation for bids at State Procurement was then amended to extend the deadline for bidding for a week.

Two bids were received and opened on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The bids were received from Basaraba's Excavating and Dirt Works, LLC of Wilton in the amount \$170,000 and Unlimited Excavating, Inc. of Washburn in the amount of \$188,000. The bid prices were much higher than expected, but this is probably due to the increased work associated with flood related projects and oil development in western North Dakota. A notice of intent to award a contract to Basaraba was issued on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Unlimited Excavating did not appeal the Intent to Award and a contract was sent to Basaraba for signing on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The contract has been signed by Basaraba and is now ready for execution by the Commission. The AML Division has sufficient funds remaining in its current OSM grants for this project.

I recommend the Commission execute a contract to Basaraba's Excavating and Dirt Works, LLC in the amount of \$170,000 for the sinkhole filling project. Attached is a motion for the October 12<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting to execute the contract.

### Attachment

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