

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Abandoned Mine Lands Division

Memorandum

TO: Commissioners Fedorchak and Christmann
Steve Kahl, Executive Director
John Schuh, General Counsel

From: Zanna Brinkman and Joan Breiner *ZAB* *JB*

Date: January 13, 2022

Subject: Close out of the 2021 Exploratory Drilling AML Project, Case No. AM-21-17 and 2021 Buechler/Velva Phase 2 AML Project, Case No. AM-21-19

On March 29, 2021, the Commission entered into Contract No. AM-847-21 with Earth, Energy and Water Systems, Inc. for drilling services on the 2021 Exploratory Drilling AML Project. The original bid amount was \$219,000. Through alternative procurement procedures, drilling and casing at Beulah were added to the contract on May 27, 2021, bringing the contract total to \$351,000. This exploratory drilling project located and characterized mine conditions of underground mine workings beneath roads and near structures in Mercer, McLean, and Stark Counties. Ross Edison served as project manager. Benjamin Griep served as inspector.

The final cost of Contract AM-847-21 was \$348,826.00 and included 23,859 feet of drilling and 5,811 feet of casing. The contractor requested and was granted for a price adjustment on casing because casing quantities significantly exceeded the original estimate and the cost of casing for the contractor nearly doubled during the project.

Final payment on the contract was made, and Contract AM-847-21 was closed on August 19, 2021.

On May 14, 2021, the Commission entered into Contract No. AM-848-21 with Martin Construction Inc. for construction services for the 2021 Buechler/Velva Phase II AML Project. This project involved reclaiming three (3) abandoned coal mines in Ward County. James Thornburg and Michael Howe supervised the project.

The original contract with Martin Construction Inc. was for \$351,347.02. The final cost of the contract was \$325,482.68 and included moving 74,918 cubic yards of earth, salvage of 7,872 cubic yards of top soil, installation of a culvert and constructed drainage and hauling 3,677 cubic yards of manure.

Final payment on the contract was made, and Contract AM-848-21 was closed on November 16, 2021.

We recommend both projects be closed.

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