

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Abandoned Mine Lands Division

## Memorandum

**To:** Steve Kahl, Executive Director  
**From:** Jonathan Emmer, Matt Fischer, and Brett Job  
**Date:** December 11, 2025  
**Subject:** Request to close Contracts AM-906-25 and AM-907-25 for the 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X & Scranton Phase IV AML Project

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The 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X & Scranton Phase IV AML Project was a remote backfilling project that stabilized abandoned underground coal mine workings along roads and other infrastructure located near Dickinson and Scranton, ND. This project was a continuation of the 2022-2024 Exploratory Drilling Projects and the 2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX Project. Those projects revealed the extent of the underground mines was larger than expected. Work began on May 22 and was completed on October 31, 2025. Brett Job served as project manager. Scott Besmer served as project inspector. All work was completed satisfactorily by the drilling & grouting contractor.

On May 15, 2025, the Commission entered into Contract Number AM-907-25 with Earth Energy & Water Systems, Inc. of New Salem, ND for drilling and remote backfilling of abandoned underground mines. The original contract amount was \$1,916,400. The final cost was \$1,976,973.50.

On May 8, 2025, the Commission entered into Contract No. AM-906-25 with Terracon Consultants, Inc. to test the quality of grout used on the project. The original contract amount was \$66,043.50. The final cost was \$56,823.25.

Final payments on both contracts have been made. Both contractors certified all employees, subcontractors, and suppliers used to fulfill the terms of the contract have been paid. We recommend Contracts AM-906-25 and AM-907-25 be closed.

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