

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Abandoned Mine Lands Division

Memorandum

TO: Commissioners Christmann, Haugen-Hoffart, and Kringstad
Steve Kahl, Executive Director
Chris Martens, General Counsel

From: ^{JE} Jonathan Emmer, ^{MF} Matthew Fischer, and Brett Job

Date: October 14, 2025

Subject: Request to Initiate 2026 New Salem AML Project
PSC Case No. AM-25-268

The 2026 New Salem AML Project is a drilling and grouting project to locate and stabilize abandoned underground coal mine workings in New Salem, ND. This project is a continuation of the 2024 and 2025 Exploratory Drilling Projects. These projects revealed numerous mine voids in the area. AML staff is recommending that more drilling be done in these areas to find the extent of the mine workings. AML staff has estimated 1,000 cubic yards of the recently tested controlled low strength material mix will be pumped into these mine workings this year. Work is expected to be conducted between June and October 2026. The estimated cost for this project is \$970,000.

The AML Division has funds to complete this project as designed and recommends initiation of the 2026 New Salem AML Project.

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