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Mining and Reclamation for
the Next Millennium

Co-editors
Stuart A. Bengson, ASARCO Incorporated, Copper Operations
and
Douglas M. Bland, NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department-
Mining and Minerals Division

Coordinators
Joanna Gonzales, EMNRD-Mining and Minerals Division
John J. Pfeil, EMNRD-Mining and Minerals Division

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1999 16th National ASSMR Meeting Arrangements Committee

Program Chair
Doug Bland, Director
Mining and Minerals Division
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: (505) 827-5974
FAX: (505) 827-7195
E-mail: dbland@state.nm.us

Technical Director
Stuart Bengson
ASARCO Incorporated
Copper Operations
Tucson, AZ
Phone: (520) 798-7733
FAX: (520) 798-7783

Local Arrangements/
Registration and Facilities
June Castelhano
Kay Nowatzki
Arizona Mining Association
2702 N. 3rd Street, Suite 2015
Phoenix, AZ 85004-4606
Phone: (602) 266-4416
FAX: (602) 266-4418
E-mail: junec@meta.com

Planning and Program
Committee Members
Consuelo T. Chavez
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
Office of the Secretary

John J. Pfeil
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
Mining and Minerals Division

Joanna Gonzales
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
Mining and Minerals Division

Doug Romig
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
Mining and Minerals Division

Vernon R. Pfannenstiel
Peabody Western Coal Company

Kathy Shores
Shores Destinations

Terry Toy
University of Denver

Joe Galetovic
Office of Surface Mining

Bruce Buchanan
Buchanan Consultants, Ltd.

Bill Sanderford
McKinley Mine
The Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Company

Doug Martin
Arizona Mine Inspector

ASSMR Executive Secretary
Richard I. Barnhisel
3134 Montavesta Rd.
Lexington KY 40502-3548
phone 606 335-6329
fax 606 335 6529
E-mail: rbarnhis@ca.uky.edu

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The New Era Has Begun

Mining & Reclamation for the Next Millennium

A Challenge from the Executive Secretary

Last year ASSMR completed fifteen years under our current name and twenty-five years altogether. For the most part, we have been associated with the coal mining industry. As your new Executive Secretary, it is my hope that ASSMR will be able to expand into new areas of reclamation and restoration. This is in response to the decline of mining in the east where larger acreages are being disturbed per ton of coal mined, and an increase in coal mining in the thicker deposits of west. This year we have made progress in this effort with a greater emphasis on metal mining. I hope that we will be able to expand our horizons to include other types of disturbed lands as well. You will see several types of reclamation in our program for the 16th annual meeting in Arizona—some old and some new. I challenge the membership to help me seek out new avenues to travel. This certainly does not mean the coal road has ended, but that we recognize significant reclamation is being conducted outside the coal industry.

Technical Division Business Meetings are an important part of our program. I hope each of you will make a special effort to attend at least one. It is my hope that these meetings will address concerns as well as goals of your Division as it moves into the next millennium. We need to brainstorm on how to meet the challenges of the future, and to think of areas not currently being addressed by ASSMR. How can we involve others in the reclamation of disturbed lands within mining, academia, and other areas where expertise exists?

In his letter in last year’s program, Mr. William Plass set forth many of the goals and accomplishments of the past. Now, we must consider goals for the future as we approach the year 2000. The National Executive Committee (NEC) met on Sunday, August 15 and will meet again at the close of the technical portion of this meeting on Wednesday. If you have concerns or suggestions, please pass them on to President Terry Toy, myself, or other members of the NEC. I truly seek your counsel for the Society and for ways in which I may better serve you in the future.

Richard (Dick) Barnhisel
Executive Secretary
# CONTENTS

## SESSION NO.

### 1. 2nd Annual Western Region Ash Group (WRAG) Forum – Coal Combustion Products (CCP) Utilization in Mining Applications Special Session:

1. Coal Combustion Product (CCP) Production, Use & Variability; Barry R. Stewart; American Coal Ash Assoc.......................................................... 1

2. Current Practices & Issues for Placement of Coal Combustion By-Products in Mine Settings; David J. Hassett, Daniel J. Daly & Debra F. Pflughoef-Hasset; Energy & Environment Research Center.......................................................... 2


4. The USDI Office of Surface Mining Initiatives Related to Coal Combustion Products (CCPs) & By-Products (CCBs); Kimery C. Vories; USDI - OSM Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center.......................................................... 25

5. *Acid Mine Drainage; Joseph Schueck; Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection.

6. *Alternate Placement Strategies for Fly Ash; Ron Jorgenson; Golder Assoc., Inc.

7. *CCPs in Road Stabilization; Patrick Shields; Brown & Brown Contracting.


9. *Coal Ash Use in Hard Rock Mining; Brian Cook; Rocky Mountain Concrete Products.

### 2. General Technical Session:

1. The Changing Face of Mining in Arizona; James D. McBride; Arizona St. Univ.......................................................... 43

2. National Association of State Land Reclamationists History & Mission; Dean R. Spindler; IL Dept. Natural Resources.......................................................... 44

3. Field XRF Analysis of Arsenic & Lead in Soils at a Former Smelter Facility; C. Mark Wallis, Mark T. Walker; Hydrometrics Inc., Tucson, AZ.......................................................... 50

4. Environmental Permitting Strategies for the Twenty-First Century; Brian Munson, C. Mark Wallis; Hydrometrics Inc., Phoenix, AZ.......................................................... 52

5. Early Grass Seedling Growth Stage Improves Explanation of Future Stand Success; R. E. Ries; USDA-ARS, N.Great Plains Research Lab.......................................................... 60

6. Standard Criteria & Methods to Assess the Reclamation of Native Vegetation on Mined Land; R. N. Humphries & Paul B. Benyon; Humphries Rowell Assoc.......................................................... 66

7. An Analysis of Manganese as an Indicator for Heavy Metal Removal in Passive Treatment Using Laboratory Spent Mushroom Compost Columns; B. A. Jacobson, R. F. Unz, & B. A. Dempsey; Penn. State Univ.......................................................... 72

8. Environmental Management Considerations and Rehabilitation at a Saline Minesite in Arid Western Australia; M. C. Beavis & K. E. Lindbeck; Acacia Resources-Sunrise Gold Mine.......................................................... 81

9. Mountaintop Removal Mining: One Coal Company’s Response to the Public Debate; L. D. Emerson; Arch.......................................................... 91

10. *Coal Closure & Minesite Rehabilitation at an Open-Pit Copper Mine on Vancouver Island; Erick C. Schwambmerger; BHP Copper.

11. The Use of Geographical Information System (GIS) Technology in Surface Mine Reclamation Monitoring; Craig Dixon; PCI Geomatics.......................................................... 103


13. *Developing Pipeline Reclamation Standards in Alberta (Canada); A. W. Fedkenheuer & J. D. Burkc; TC West .......................................................... 118

* denotes papers not published in Proceedings, but available at presentation.
3. **Tailing Technical Session:**

2. Waste for Wastelands - Reclaiming Taconite Tailings Basins with Organic Amendments; Paul Eger, Glen Melchert, & Steve Dewar; MN Dept. Natural Resources-Division of Minerals ........................................ 132
3. Reclamation of Prime Farmland Following Mineral Sands Mining in Virginia; W. L. Daniels, P. D. Schroeder, S. M. Nagle, L. W. Zelazny & M. M. Alley; VA Tech., Dept. Crop & Soil Environmental Science ........................................ 146
4. Construction and Preliminary Evaluation of Copper Tailings Reclamation Test-Plots at Cyprus Miami Mining Corporation; Guy Chammas, Douglas R. McCaulou & Gary L. Jones; HydroGeochem ........................................ 157
5. Application of Ameliorative and Adaptive Approaches to Revegetation of Historic High Altitude Mining Wastes; M. W. Bellitto, H. T. Williams & J. N. Ward; Golder Assoc ........................................ 165
6. Vegetation Success, Seepage & Erosion on Tailings Sites Reclaimed with Cattle & Biosolids; Joe Vinson, Brian Jones, Michael Milczarek, Dale Hammermeister & John Word; Geosystems Analysis ........................................ 175
7. Tailings Basin Reclamation Atlantic City Iron Mine, Wyoming; James J. Gusek & Timothy C. Richmond; Knight-Piesold ........................................ 184
8. Conversion of a Tailing Impoundment to a Freshwater Reservoir, the Eagle Park Reservoir Project, Climax Mine, Colorado; Bryce R. Romig, Jay L. Cupp & R. C. Ford; Climax Molybdenum Co.-Climax Mine ........................................ 192
9. Reclamation of Kyanite Mine Tailings with Surface Reconfiguration; Gwendelyn Geidel, Frank T. Caruccio & E. Ray Dotson; Dept. of Geological Science, Univ. of SC ........................................ 198

4. **Soils & Overburden Technical Session:**

1. Is It Topsoil or Overburden? Case Study of a Small Mine in Wyoming; George F. Vance & Lowell K. Spackman; Soil Science Dept. Range Resources, U. of WY ........................................ 209
2. Dynamics and Characterization of Soil Organic Matter in Mine Soils Sixteen Years After Amendment with Native Soil, Sawdust and Sludge; E. S. Bendfeldt, J. A. Burger, W. L. Daniels & C. M. Fieldhake; Coll. of Forestry, VA Tech. ........................................ 225
4. Changes in Minesoil Physical Properties over a 9-Year Period; J. M. Gorman & J. C. Sencindiver; WV Univ. Div. of Plant & Soil Science ........................................ 245
5. A Comparison of Vegetation Development on Coarse Coal Reject and Replaced Topsoil on an Open-Cut Coal Mine in Central Queensland, Australia; David R. Mulligan, Andrew H. Grigg, David Bowen, Matthew S. Orr & L. Clive Bell; Center for Mined Land Rehab., Univ. of Queensland ........................................ 254
6. The Role of a Fertilizer Trial in Reconciling Agricultural Expectations & Landscape Ecology Requirements on an Opencast Coal Site in South Wales, United Kingdom; C. E. L. Humphries, R. N. Humphries & H. Wesemann; Humphries Rowell Assoc ........................................ 262
10. Pyritic Shale Integration into Waste Rock Management, Mt. Whaleback; M. O’Kane, D. Porterfield & A. Wier; O’Kane Consultants ........................................ 299
11. Establishment of Vegetation on Mined Sites by Management of Mycorrhizae; Len F. Marx, Donald H. Marx & Charles E. Cordell; PHC Reclamation ........................................ 307
12. Initial Growth of Leguminous Trees and Shrubs in a Cut Gold Mined Area in Minas Gerais State, Brazil; Luis E. Diaz, Eduardo F. C. Campello, Emerson S. Ribeiro, Jr. & Jaime W. V. Mello; Dept. of Natural Resource Science & Landscape Architecture, U. of MD ........................................ 316
13. Mineland Reclamation and Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration in Ohio; V. A. Akala & R. Lal; OH St. Univ.-Sch. of Natural Resources ........................................ 322
5. Forestry & Wildlife Technical Session: ................................................................. 332
   1. OSM's Reforestation Initiative; J. Scott Boyce; OSM. ....................... 333
   2. Woody Vegetation and Succession on the Foode Surface Mine Demonstration Area, Bell County
      Kentucky; G. L. Wade & R. L. Thompson; USDA-FS, NE Research Station. ............ 339
   3. Spatial Variation in Spoil and Vegetative Characteristics of Pastures on Reclaimed Surface
      Mined Land; C. D. Teutsch, M. Collins & D. C. Ditsch; U. of KY, Dept. of Agron. & Ag. Science. ............ 352
   4. *Considering Wildlife at the Landscape Level in Mine Planning & Restoration; Craig W. Johnson;
      Dept. Landscape Architecture & Environ. Planning, UT State University. ............ 353

6. Geotechnical Engineering Technical Session: ...................................................... 365
   1. Pressurized Grout Remote Backfilling at AML Sites Near Beulah and Zap, North Dakota;
      Edward J. Weiner & William E. Dodd; TCDFI. ........................................ 366
   2. Closure Plan Evaluation for Risk of Acid Rock Drainage; Diane L. Dwire, Alan J. Krause &
      Luke J. Russell; Montgomery Watson. ................................................... 381
   3. Rock Slope Stability Analysis of the Seven-Cataracts Vista Road Cut of the Mt. Lemon
      Highway, Tucson, Arizona; Pinnaduwa H.S.W. Kulatilake, Jeongi-Gi Um, Greg Crum &
      Graham Irvine; Coll. of Engr. & Mines, Dept. Mining & Geol. Engr., Univ. of AZ. ............ 393
      County, Ohio; A. G. Hoffmann, Daniel M. Clark & T. D. Bechtel; Gannett Fleming Inc. ............ 408
   5. Stability of Reclaimed Ore Heaps with Geomembrane Lining Systems; Mark R. Twede;
      Vector Engr. ....................................................................................... 423
   6. Foundation Construction in Abandoned Quarries; Nasser Massoudi; Woodward Clyde. ............ 431
   7. Biotic & Abiotic Factors Influencing the Long-Term Stability of Covers on Waste Rock Piles
      in the Uranium Mining District of Saxony & Thuringia (Germany); Martin Hienze, Mirko
      Kohler & Hartmut Sanger; Crimmitschau Univ. ......................................... 435
   8. Application of Geochemical Modeling and Hydrologic Techniques to Interpret Sources, Mixing
      and Evolution of Mine Drainage; Eric F. Perry & Robert S. Evans; OSM. ............ 444
   9. Salt Mine Subsidence & Associated Damage: A Case History; Gennaro G. Marino; Marino Engr. ............ 453
  10. Slope Stability to Rectify Coal Waste Embankments on Mining Areas; Kazimierz (Casimir)
      Klossek; Technical Univ. of Silesia Gliwice. ........................................... 462
  11. Investigation of Subsidence Event Over Multiple Seam Mining Area; Kewal Kohli; OSM. ............ 472
  12. Geotechnical Considerations in Surface Mine Reclamation; Alan K. Kuhn; AK GeoConsulting. ............ 481
  13. Implementation of Subsidence Control Regulatory Requirement; Daniel Barkley; IL Dept.
      Natural Resources, Office of Mines & Minerals, Land Reclamation Div. ............ 490
  14. Long Term Subsidence Movements & Behavior of Subsidence-Damaged Structures; J. W.
      Mahar & G. G. Marino; Geotechnical Consultants Inc. ................................ 495
  15. Well Injection Depth Extraction (WIDE) Soil Flushing for Remediation of a Low Level Uranium
      Groundwater Plume in Glacial till Soil; J. D. Quaranta & M. A. Gabr; N.C. St. Univ., Dept.of Civil
      Energy; No paper available. ......................................................................... 517
  16. Application of Unsaturated Zone Hydrology at Waste Rock Facilities in Dry Climates: Design of
      Soil Covers and Prediction of Seepage; Darren Swanson & Mike O'Kane; SAVCI Environmental
      Technologies, LLC. ............................................................................. 517
  17. A Comparison of Simulated Unsaturated Flow Through Waste Rocks Using Two Commonly
      Used Computer Models; Bibhuti B. Panda, Tony J. Freiman & Chandrika Manepally; AGRA
      Earth & Envir. ..................................................................................... 527

7. Wetlands Technical Session: ................................................................. 539
   1. Design & Implementation of a Leach Field to Remove Metals, Nitrate, Selenium & Sulfate; J. M.
      Harrington, D. B. Levy & J. G. Harrington; Shepard Miller. ....................... 540
   2. A New Process for Sulfate Removal from Industrial Waters; Mark A. Reinsel; Hydrometrics. ............ 546
      Hydrometrics. ..................................................................................... 551
   4. Anoxic Biotreatment Cell (ABC) for Removal of Nitrate & Selenium from Mining Effluent
      Waters; Mark A. Reinsel & Maxwell K. Botz; Hydrometrics. ............ 556

*denotes papers not published in Proceedings, but available at presentation.


7. Fate and Transport of Metals in a Natural Wetland Receiving Mine Drainage; Monica Pavlik, Thomas Wildeman, Kenneth Kolm, John Emerick, & Robert Robinson; Dept. Chem. & Geochem., CO Sch. of Mines ........................................ 563

8. Hydric Soils and the Relationship to Plant Diversity within Reclaimed Stream Channels in Semi-Arid Environments; Brenda K. Schladwieler, Scott Rextroat & Scott Benson; BKS Envr. Assoc. ........................................ 579

9. Evaluation of a Limestone Channel and Wetland System for Treating Acid Mine Drainage; Fred J. Brenner & Patrick Pruent; Grove City Coll., Dept. of Biology . ........................................ 584


14. Microbial, Algal and Fungal Strategies for Manganese Oxidation at a Shade Township Coal Mine, Somerset County, Pennsylvania; Eleanor I. Robbins, David L. Brant & Paul F. Ziemkiewicz; USD&USGS. ........................................ 634

15. A Method for Detecting Dewatering Effects of Underground Mining Activities on Surface Wetlands; Larry D. Hayden-Wing, John R. Baldwin, Kenneth Webber & Jeffery B. Winstead; Hayden-Wing Assoc. ........................................ 641

16. Steel Slag in Acid Mine Drainage Treatment & Control; Paul Ziemkiewicz & Jeff Skousen; National Mined Land Reclamation Center, W.VA Univ. ........................................ 651

17. Treatment and Prevention of ARD Using Silica Micro-Encapsulation; Paul Mitchell, James Rybock & Amy Wheaton; KEECO. ........................................ 657


1. *Ecological Engineering Alternatives for Remediation and Restoration of Drastically Disturbed Landscape; R. W. Nairn, L. Hare, M. Mercer, K. Dresback, K. Pepple, A. Kirchner, D. Cseak, J. Lossing, C. Durham & B. Chen; U.of OK, Sch.of Civil Engr. & Env. Science. ........................................ 663

9. Landscape Architecture Technical Session: ........................................ 664

1. Surface Mine Planning & Design Implications and Theory of a Visual Environmental Quality Predictive Model; J. B. Burley; MI St. Univ. ........................................ 665

2. Ten Years of Computer Visual Simulations on Large Scale Projects in the Western United States; John C. Ellsworth; Ellsworth Assoc. ........................................ 674

10. Hydrology Technical Session: ........................................ 678


* denotes papers not published in Proceedings, but available at presentation.
11. Cattle for Reclamation Special Session: ........................................................................ 696

1. Hoof, Mouth & Manure - Livestock and Mine Land Rehabilitation: “Sustainable Mine Land Reclamation - the Overview”; Shannon A. Horst; Center for Holistic Management .................. 697
2. *Overview of Tailings & Waste Rock Reclamation at BHP Copper; Robert Breen & Eric Schwamberger; BHP Copper.
3. Twenty-To-One: the Nevada Experience; Tony Tipton & Jerrie Tipton; Public Land Management Contractors to BLM ........................................... 700
4. The Use of Livestock As A Tool for Reclamation of Copper Tailings in Southern Arizona; S. A. Bengson; ASARCO Incorporated - Copper Operations ......................... 704

12. Poster Presentations: ................................................................................................. 707

1. A Spatial Application of a Vegetation Productivity Equation for Neo-Sol Reconstruction. J. B. Burley; MI St. University ......................................................... 708
2. Establishment of Vegetation in Constructed Wetlands Using Biosolids & Quarry Fines; Timothy P. Danehy, Robert Zick, Fred Brenner, Jerry Chmielewski, Margaret H. Dunn & Charles D. Cooper; BioMost ........................................... 715
5. Vegetative Propagation of Kura Clover on Mine Spoils; Micheal Collins, David C. Ditsch, Chris D. Teutsch; U. of KY, Dept. of Agron. .................................................... 718
7. The Use of Mine-Development Models to Support Mine Closure & Reclamation Planning; R. W. Newcomer Jr. & C. P. Wolf; Daniel B. Stephens & Assoc. Abstract only ............................................. 733
8. Closed Mines Reclamation; Tomas Hernandez, Gabriel Macias; Servicios Industriales Penoles, S.A. de C.V.; Poster available at poster presentation
9. A Humic Acid Extract from Lignite for Reclaiming Contaminated Soils; Richard I. Barnhisel; Agron. Dept., U. of KY. Abstract only ................................................... 734
11. Effectiveness of Wetland-Riparian Vegetation in Remediation of a Disturbed Seleniferous Environment; C. P. Skinner & G. F. Vance; U. of WY, Dept. Renewable Natural Resources. Abstract only ........................................................................ 736

* denotes papers not published in Proceedings, but available at presentation.
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   David J. Hassett, Daniel J. Daly & Debra F. Pflughoeft-Hassett; Energy & Environment Research Center.

U.S. Department of Energy Projects Involving the Use of Coal Combustion By-Products in Mining Applications

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   Kimery C. Vories; USDI - OSM Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center.

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   Joseph Schueck; Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection. Paper not published in Proceedings.

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   Ron Jorgenson; Goldner Assoc., Inc. Paper not published in Proceedings.

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Coal Ash Use in Hard Rock Mining
   Brian Cook; Rocky Mountain Concrete Products. Paper not published in Proceedings.