

# WRTT Conference Call

July 20th, 2009

Monday 11:00 AM Mountain Time

Call: 1-877-612-4949 Passcode: 8870122

## WRTT

### TIPS, Technology Transfer, Training and General Information:

- Please check out the updated **TIPS** website for recent updates! These are located in the “What’s New?” section of the page. <http://www.tips.osmre.gov>
- Please check out the updated **NTTT** website for recent updates! These are located at: <http://www.techtransfer.osmre.gov>
- Check out the newly designed **OSMRE** website at: <http://www.osmre.gov>
- The NAAML P National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands 31st Annual Conference will be held September 27-30, 2009 in Rogers, AR. Please check out the website for further information: <http://www.onenet.net/~naamlp>

### Discussion Topic(s):

The software distribution process between OSMRE and the states/tribes, and, within each respective agency has been (at times) inefficient. What (if anything) needs to be done to make this process more efficient?

We did not come up any groundbreaking solutions on how to make the software distribution more efficient. Most states and tribes said their current systems for distributing software are working okay. Montana stated that only IT can install the software and they have taken steps to make their system more efficient. Colorado stated that everything is being transitioned to a central IT system (which will also include a help desk). Colorado also stated that IT has no idea what is being done in the title V program. New Mexico, Utah, Alaska and Wyoming all stated that they thought their current system of distributing software was working fairly well. The Navajo Nation title V program and the Crow program stated that they both have hired new IT people. The Navajo nation Title IV program stated that they will soon hire a new IT person.

## **WRTT Member Reports/Information**

Alaska:

Alaska stated that the Johnson Range site had a change of ownership. They continue to complete routine oversight inspections.

Arizona (Navajo):

IV: Routine maintenance work and public service project are ongoing. V: Four new jobs have been posted. Tribal primacy talks are ongoing.

Arizona (Hopi):

Not present

Colorado:

Peabody proposed a new underground mine. Bond release inspections continue. All Colorado employees now have to take four furlough days.

Montana:

Our electronic database project, based on that of the Colorado program, is moving ahead. The contract has been signed with the same contractor that developed the Colorado system, and will be tweaked to the specific needs of Montana. A development platform is going to be ready by the end of the week. The database should be ready for user testing in January 2010.

We are working with New Mexico to find someone that can assist us with the origin of trace elements (specifically, As) appearing in groundwater down gradient of ash disposal areas. WE have found an associate professor at the University of Idaho (U of I) that has the expertise--and interest--for helping with an investigation.

John Sieving, hydrologist in the Casper field office, accompanied me in an examination of monitoring wells at the Absaloka well. We used Casper's downhole camera to investigate a reported problem in one well.

Montana (Crow):

Not present

New Mexico:

IV: Request for proposals (RFP) to increase productivity is out. V: Planning for a study, in conjunction with MT, OSM (Amy McGregor) and U of I (Dan Strawn) to trace metals in fly ash has begun.

North Dakota:

Not present

Utah:

A level of effort mechanism is being developed to help with engineering work.

Wyoming:

IV: Kudos to the OSM librarian! They are doing great work. Ongoing projects in Rock Springs area including subsidence mitigation and grouting, surface coal mine reclamation of highwalls and spoils, underground coal mine entries and subsidence closures and regional groundwater monitoring. Very near completion of consents and clearances for first phase of channel reconstruction in Town of Hanna.

Casper Field Office:

The downhole camera was used to examine monitoring wells in MT (Absaloka Mine).  
The office continues to collect and review Reg-8 data. The office participated in a rock and mineral show in Casper.

Program Support Division/Albuquerque Area Office/Farmington Area Office:

Not present

Denver Field Division/ Olympia Area Office:

Not present

TIPS:

We should be using our new servers (based in the Denver Federal Center) by the end of August. We are hoping that everyone should soon have a log-in so that they can download software from our website (for added security). The TIPS network will be down for one day in August (a Saturday yet to be named).

### **General Discussion**

Any topics of interest from our OSM offices, states and tribes are to be brought up at this time.

**Next Call:**

**August 17th, 2009**