In order to document and advance remining of Ohio coal in conjunction with reclamation of abandoned mined lands, OSU has undertaken this Phase I research effort which couples a preliminary assessment of remining activities in Duck Creek watershed and working with DMRM established Remining Task Force to assist with program development and implementation.

This Phase I project consists of two parts:

a) **Duck Creek Watershed Study** - We are examining the state of lands and waters in Duck Creek Watershed prior to modern day mining laws (1972) and developing a methodology to assess the extent remining has played in the reclamation of pre-1972 mining in this watershed. Duck Creek was selected due to extensive amount of pre-law mining in the watershed followed by significant amount of remining that has occurred in the watershed over last several decades.

b) **Advancing Ohio Remining Issues** - In this activity, OSU along with its project consultant is participating & assisting DMRM in developing and updating Ohio’s remining program. This assistance includes participation in Ohio’s Remining Task Force and its subcommittees.

If Phase I work is successful, a more extensive Phase II study proposal will be developed and submitted for funding to interested agencies along with co-funding by industrial partners. This Phase II study will further refine and implement methodologies developed in Duck Creek watershed, along with assessing the economic impacts from remining, land use changes attributed to remining, and environmental water quality components in other selected watersheds across the coal mining region of Ohio.

The completion of both Phase I and Phase II studies will provide valuable information to current regulators (state and federal 1513, 401,402,404 permits) of active mine operations who examine coal remining applications submitted by Ohio’s coal mining industry. The Best Management Practices (BMPs) utilized by these coal remining operations will be described along with the impact on the watershed. In addition, the results of this Phase II study will be submitted for consideration in Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) assessments being conducted by the OEPA and the other agencies involved in the 401, 402, and 404 coal mining permitting activities.

The current Phase I project duration is 18 months (October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012) with sponsorship from the Ohio Coal Association.

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