

9/28/11

Andy, Anne

Could this letter be forwarded to WPCAMR membership.

WPCAMR Members,

At our last meeting, hosted in Indiana County , Rosebud Mining gave a presentation on their proposal to treat the St Michaels discharge at no cost to tax payers for the chance to mine a 25 year reserve of high quality metallurgical coal. Their proposed method of treating the discharge (lime addition) would not meet EPA's requirements and Rosebud came before us asking that WPCAMR write a letter to the EPA in support of higher discharge limits for manganese. The motion carried though I opposed feeling that Rosebud Mining should explore new technologies to meet the discharge limits other than a 3000 year old technology.

I was indeed aware of a company (local I might add) who had developed a tested technology that would meet EPA requirements and at a competitive cost. I instructed this individual to contact John Garcia at Rosebud Mining and introduce himself and his technology to Rosebud's engineers. After repeated phone calls by the company's founder, John Garcia did return a call and basically dismissed the whole idea without even exploring the process.

I, along with Anne Daymut of WPCAMR, did visit the company's pilot plant and was impressed with the potential of this treatment process and scientific methods being utilized. Margaret Dunn and DEP representatives have also been introduced to the process. They did run samples of the St Michaels' discharge through their pilot plant and were able to reduce manganese levels to well below EPA's requirement of 0.5ppm.

I was disappointed at Rosebud's lack of response to this potential treatment process and felt I should make it aware to other members. If you have any questions I would be glad to respond.

Yours in conservation

Jim Resh

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