



**PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
TO CONDUCT RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES**
(Abandoned Mine Land Program)

IN THE MATTER OF: **West Dante Portals Project**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy, Division of Mined Land Reclamation, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, pursuant to the authority granted in the Virginia Coal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1979 (Chapter 19, Article 4, Section 45.1-260 et seq.) with funding provided by the **2012** Consolidated Grant, has determined and found that:

Land located **between Rt. 627 and Rt. 650 near the community of West Dante** in **Dickenson** County and **Russell** County Virginia, has been adversely affected by past coal mining practices, to wit:

1. Property owners, both known and unknown, are hereby notified of the Division's intention to reclaim the area adversely affected by past coal mining practices. The purpose of this Notice is to provide notice to any landowners, heirs, assigns and devisees who may be affected by the proposed reclamation and who have not been identified and who have not granted written consent.
2. The public health, safety and property is endangered by: **open mine entries, open auger holes and unstable areas associated with these openings; subsidence cracks; hazardous mine equipment, debris and facilities and mine drainage.**
3. The proposed action consists of:
 - a) Construction, improvement and maintenance of access roads including temporary stream crossings as needed. Temporary stream crossings will be removed upon completion of this work.
 - b) The permanent closure of abandoned mine entries and auger holes. Pipes will be installed as needed to ensure positive drainage and unstable areas associated with these openings will be stabilized.
 - c) Controlling mine drainage by constructing surface ditches and installing properly sized

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- pipes;
- d) Filling subsidence cracks with onsite material;
 - e) Establishing and maintaining sediment and erosion control measures as needed throughout the project;
 - f) Establishing approved vegetation on all areas disturbed by this project.
4. Known property owner(s) in the area of the proposed reclamation are:
- Heartwood Forestland Fund IV, LP**
 - Earl Hay (Jodi and Melissa Hill)**
 - John and Easter Salyers**
 - Russell County**
 - Michael Sutherland, ETAL**
 - Jimmy D. Keen, ETAL**
 - R. F. Skeen**
 - Luther and Barbara Mullins**
 - Jerry Farmer**
 - Harry Salyers**
 - Travis Clyde Mullins**
 - Alpha Land Reserves, LLC**
 - EQT Production Company (Oil and Gas Lessee)**
 - Range Resources Pine Mountain, INC (Oil and Gas Lessee)**

Based upon the above findings, the Commonwealth of Virginia, acting by and through the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, Division of Mined Land Reclamation, its agents, employees and contractors, gives notice that 30 days from this Notice being published in the **Dickenson Star** and in the **Lebanon News**, and posted on the property, the Division will initiate and continue until the proposed work on the **West Dante Portals Project** is complete, and shall

do all things necessary and expedient to protect the public health, safety and general welfare.
Such entry shall not be construed as an act of condemnation of property nor of trespass thereon.

For further information contact the Division of Mined Land Reclamation at the following address:

Attention: AML Section
VA Dept. of Mines, Minerals & Energy
P. O. Drawer 900
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

The telephone number is (276) 523-8206.

This notice can also be found on the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's website: <http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/PublicMeetings/PublicNotices.shtml>

DATE 3/31/14 BY Gavin M. Bledsoe for Randy Casey
Division Director