The Orphaned Land Advisory Committee Meeting was held at Midlothian, Virginia on May 20, 2008 and May 21, 2008. Committee members present were:

Mr. Walter Beck, Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA)
Mr. Phil Davidson, Mining Industry Representative
Mr. Gerry Wilkes, Virginia (DMME), Division of Mineral Resources
Mr. Steve Nagle, Virginia Tech, Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences
Mr. Palmer Sweet, Citizen Member
Mr. Steve Long, Virginia Department of Transportation
Mr. David Lazarus – Department of Environmental Quality
Ms. Alica Ketchem – USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service

Mr. Conrad Spangler, DMME Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) Director; Mr. Allen Bishop, DMM Project Manager; Mr. Mac Hagy, DMM Mine Inspector and Mr. Edward Epp, DMM Non-point Source Pollution Coordinator, were present as ex-officio non-voting members and advisors to the Committee.

Committee members selected Illuka Resources Inc. – Old Hickory Operation as the best non-quarry and overall winner in the DMM/VTCA Awards Program and to be nominated for the Interstate Mining Compact Commission National Award Program. Boxley Materials Company – Rich Patch Quarry was selected as the best quarry.


The Committee by-laws were reviewed. Mr. Phil Davidson’s membership was renewed as the Mining Industry Representative as was Ms. Alica Ketchem and Dr. Lee Daniels as the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Virginia Tech Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences Department representatives respectively.

PowerPoint presentations of selected sites that had safety and/or environmental scores over 100 were reviewed. One hundred and fifty two sites were inventoried and prioritized by the Committee this year. The inventory system continues to be enhanced in order to provide a comprehensive inventory of Abandoned Mineral Mines in Virginia.

A tour of the Moorefield Gemstone Mine was held.