

Informal Conference

6:00 p.m. March 9, 2009

Application #1003841

Andover Methodist Church

Appalachia, Virginia

1. **Doors were open to the public at 5:30 p.m.**
2. **The conference began at 6:00 p.m. with welcome by Gavin Bledsoe (DMME, facilitator)**
3. **Purpose of the meeting – to receive comments on the permit application – the application is technically complete enough for the DMLR to receive public comments and concerns.**
4. **General overview of how meeting would be conducted –**
 - **DMLR staff were present to respond to inquiries as to location of certain information in the permit application. The application and surface water hydrology maps were displayed and a paper copy of the application & corresponding Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit application (9 volumes) were provided for review.**
 - **individual comments would be taken in an adjoining room.**
5. **Media - Reporters (2) from [The Post](#) were present. Two (2) college students asked permission to video the individual comments & were allowed to do so as long as the individual did not object (only 1 person objected and videoing was not conducted of that person).**
6. **DMLR staff present: Harve Mooney, Legal Services Officer; Marilyn Gates, DMLR Office Services Specialist (serving as conference recorder); Ken Artrip, Reclamation Inspector; Les Vincent, Technical Services Manager; Jackie Davis, Division Director; Greg Baker, Reclamation Program Manager; and Mike Giles, DMLR Area Supervisor.**
7. **Others present: representative of permit applicant and representative of the consultant D. R. Allen & Associates.**
8. **Attendees were informed of the DMLR decision process –**
 - **Within 60 days from the close of the conference to approve, disapprove, or require additional information.**
 - **Permittee and Commenter would be informed in writing of the DMLR's decision on the application as well as the right to administrative review of such.**
9. **Comments regarding the application were taken in Conference Room 211.**
10. **Comments were received from 38 persons (transcript to be prepared) – some of the concerns raised included - conduct of informal conference, impacts to receiving streams, coal truck traffic, amount of area to be mined, location/impact to communities; blasting impacts, dust, destruction of mountains by surface mining, etc.**
11. **After receiving comments from all persons who wished to provide such, the conference was closed at 8:30 p.m.**