

**Cawood Refuse
AML Enhancement Rule Project
Harlan County**

Project Description

The proposed project (11.1 acres total) consists of excavating old coal refuse material for processing, which will eliminate a fire hazard, contaminated rainwater drainage and dust problems for nearby residents. The project area is located within the Evarts Quadrangle at 36° 46' 52" latitude and 83° 13' 05" longitude. (see the attached map).

The coal refuse pile (8.3 acres) has been abandoned since 1954. Access (2.8 acres) is preexisting. The landowner cut all the existing trees down during the winter of 2009. A 10 foot wide buffer zone will be maintained for the natural drainage channel east of the refuse pile. During excavation for the usable coal, cover material will be stockpiled. The usable material will be hauled by truck to a permitted coal processing and refuse disposal facility, either to permit # 848-8059 or permit # 848-5434 in Kentucky, or to permit # 1402024 in Virginia. Excessive road dust will be controlled by watering equipment, and any public dust or noise complaints will be promptly addressed. Any concrete debris unearthed during excavation will be buried, and any metal debris encountered will be sold to an off-site approved recycler. Any buried trash that is excavated will be hauled to an off-site approved landfill.

Construction disturbances will be kept to a minimum through the use of a stringently formulated sediment and erosion control program, consisting of sediment traps/sumps, straw bales and silt fences maintained throughout the life of the project, with permanent benches that drain to the sides approximately 15 feet wide every 50 to 60 feet with the natural slope in between, and permanent drainage ditches with rock lining as needed. Prompt re-vegetation will include agricultural limestone, fertilizer, grass and clover seeds, and hardwood tree seedlings planted between February 1 and April 15. Netting and mulch will be placed on top of the seeds for improved survival and growth rates.

The project site has been previously disturbed by coal mining, residential construction, or road construction. No disturbance of any stream reach is planned. No construction is proposed within a regulated floodplain. No trees representing potential Indiana Bat habitat are planned to be removed. All necessary permits and/or variances will be procured prior to construction.