

NAAMLPLP

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ABANDONED MINE LAND PROGRAMS

NEWSLETTER
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

2021 NAAMLPLP CONFERENCE

Lake Tahoe Nevada
September 12 - 15, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

1. To provide a forum to address current issues, discuss common problems and share new technologies regarding abandoned mine land reclamation;
2. To foster positive and productive relationships between the states and tribes represented by the Association and the federal government;
3. To serve as an effective, unified voice when presenting the states'/tribes' common viewpoints; and
4. To coordinate, cooperate and communicate with the Interstate Mining Compact Commission and all other organizations dedicated to wise use and restoration of our natural resources.

Dear Members and Partners,

I believe every newsletter article and update starts the same way right now: what a year. But, looking back at this difficult year, I am very proud how we came together as an Association and pulled off two successful virtual business meetings. While I have missed seeing everyone in person, and virtual settings can't come close to replicating all the relationships that are built at a conference, I still feel up-to-date regarding our business items – particularly reauthorization of the AML program. We all have Greg Conrad and Tom Clarke at IMCC to thank for keeping us in the loop. They have been working tirelessly over the last year to make sure the important conversations are happening at the highest levels and that our AML work remains top priority. On that note, here is the latest update from IMCC regarding the bills that have been proposed.

From IMCC on 5/26/2021: We are pleased to report that the House Natural Resources Committee today passed three critical pieces of AML legislation. H.R. 1733 (the RECLAIM Act) and H.R. 1734 (reauthorization) passed by voice vote. The H.R. 1733 action also included adoption of an amendment (drafted by IMCC) regarding the availability of RECLAIM funding for acid mine drainage (AMD) set aside accounts. H.R. 1146 (the Community Reclamation Partnerships Act) passed by unanimous consent. These bills are now poised for action by the full House of Representatives. How and when that will happen remains unknown at this time, but we suspect the bills may be attached to another, "must-pass" piece of legislation, as opposed to being taken up as independent bills. We will keep you posted on developments as they occur. We will now be looking to the Senate for action on three AML bills that have been introduced in that body (S. 1147 re reauthorization; S. 1455 re RECLAIM; and S. 1600 re a variation of the previous two bills).

One thing to be proud of coming out of this past year is our resiliency to figure out new ways to operate and keep reclamation and emergency abatement happening across the country. I know it was scary last spring wondering how we could continue operating. While some of our field work and initial site investigations can happen socially distanced, much of our work relies on the relationships we build along the way. Whether that is pre-bid meetings to look at a site in person, contractor meetings to discuss progress, engineering updates, or meeting with a landowner about an emergency subsidence, we are used to gathering together to assess our work. But, we are lucky that our work easily continued last year and many programs were able to thrive.

I want to take a moment and recognize a few key staff changes we have had in the last 7-9 months. We have seen several of our longtime colleagues and champions for the AML program retire or move on to other opportunities. They will all be missed for their insight and willingness to speak up and help lead a conversation. Of note, three past Association Presidents, have left our ranks. I want to personally thank Alan Edwards, Eric Cavazza, and Bob Scott for their



many years of service to AML. And, we lost a very good friend of AML this year – Louise Dunlap. Louise was always so personable at our meetings and interested to listen to each of our perspectives. Her dedication to reclamation will be missed.

In closing, I can't wait to see everyone IN PERSON this fall at our conference and business meeting in Nevada. Rob and his staff have been eagerly working on the details and it is going to be a fantastic event, full of all the relationship building we so desperately miss right now! [NAAML P 2021 Conference – Hosted by Nevada](#) We have a lot of work to do regarding reauthorization and the future of the AML program between now and September. Please reach out to IMCC or any of the NAAML P officers if you have questions or are looking for a way to get involved. I believe the best thing we can all do right now is make sure we are educated and up to speed on all the bills being introduced. That way, you can advocate for your program and AML needs within your state.

Enjoy your summer and SEE you soon,



Susan Kozak
NAAML P President

Welcome to the NAAML P 42nd Annual Conference

September 12th – 15th, 2021

Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) safety hazards and environmental issues from historic mining practices exist throughout our nation. Each region is unique in its challenges of maintaining public safety and mitigating environmental impacts at these historic sites. The NAAML P annual conference is a place to discuss and learn about AML issues, history and methods of remediation.

Nevada encourages you to come join us at Lake Tahoe to learn and network with NAAML P members, federal and state officials, as well as individuals from education, scientific, engineering, and business fields about the nations AML reclamation and remediation efforts.

A welcome reception will be held on the evening of Sunday the 12th. The conference hall and exhibit section will open Monday morning, along with the plenary session followed by technical presentations. The awards banquet will be held on Monday evening.

Field trips to local AML sites, geologic sites, and historic sites will take place on Tuesday, concluding with a dinner on Lake Tahoe. Technical sessions will continue on Wednesday until noon when the conference ends.

For more information about the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs visit: www.naamlp.net



How Do You Test The Flowability Of Your Grout?

I am asking all the underground mine reclamation experts out there! North Dakota AML uses the same standard grout testing procedures every year. We contract with a material testing company to test grout. One of the tests measures flowability. We have a specified slump range of 6 to 11 inches using the standard cone slump test, ASTM C143. If it ain't broke don't fix it, right?

Of course, 2020 was the year of changes. Summer 2020, we rejected a couple of truckloads of grout with 11.5" slumps. Then, the grout supplier on the project, a major concrete producer in the state, questioned the legitimacy of the slump test on grout. This challenged ND AML to research the different tests and reassess our grout specifications. Through research, we found that the ASTM C143 specification has a note that states "concretes having slumps greater than about 9 in. [230 mm] may not be adequately cohesive for this test to have significance. Caution should be exercised in interpreting such results." Our slump range of 6 to 11 inches is not recommended by ASTM for this test.

Now what?

Through research, we found the spread test, ASTM C1611. This test is typically used on another highly flowable material, self-consolidating concrete. Pictured below is the cone used in both the slump and the spread tests. It is a very similar test in terms of equipment needed, time to take the test, setup, and difficulty.

We will use the spread test in the summer of 2021 concurrently with the slump test. With anything new, there may be some growing pains. This could mean some trial and error at the beginning of the project. However, once we have done enough spread tests, we will have enough data to compare the two tests. If any other AML programs have any experience using either test, please reach out to ND AML with any useful information on this subject. Also, if anyone is curious about how the switch goes in 2021, we will be happy to share our results.

Ross Edison
North Dakota AML



A material tester conducting a slump test in Williston 2019.



The testing area is on-site, away from the activity. A shed is used to hold the samples for field curing.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SPECIFICATIONS

400 - 500 words. Articles subject to editing. Submit in e-mail or hard copy. Include author's name, title of article, captions for photos. Submit photos in TIF (preferred) or JPG format, and original photo size.

E-mail photos as individual files, not embedded.

Deadline for Fall Edition is November 15, 2021.

Email articles to **Justin Adams** (justin.adams@ky.gov) or

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