

KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1930 Constant Ave., Campus West
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-3726
phone 785-864-3965
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October 21, 2005

Mr. Murray J. Balk, Chief
Surface Mining Section
Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
4033 Parkview Drive
Frontenac, KS 66763

Re: Sherf Reclamation Project (KS-0383), located in SW ¼ quarter
of Section 34, T. 22 S., R. 25 E., Linn Co., Kansas

Dear Murray:

I have reviewed the information that you sent the Kansas Geological Survey concerning the proposed "Sherf Reclamation Project," located in southeast Linn County, Kansas. The proposed reclamation area (KS-0383) is located in part of the southwest quarter of Section 34, T. 22 S., R. 25 E., Linn Co., Kansas on past strip-mine land disturbed by mining of the Mulberry coal east-central Kansas.

This coal bed is part of the Bandera Shale Formation of the Marmaton Group of rocks in The proposed reclamation efforts would correct problems created by past strip-mining of the Mulberry coal. Underlying the Mulberry coal are other coal beds within the Cherokee Group that have been mined extensively in southeast Kansas. However, those coals are too deep for economic strip mining and those coals are too thin for consideration of modern underground coal mining methods. Therefore, the potential for additional strip mining or possible deep mining of coal at this proposed reclamation site is not a concern.

Some potential does exist for a small area to be strip mined to the west of the reclamation site but outside of the proposed reclamation project. If mining develops in the future, it should not interfere with the planned reclamation effort.

Basically, future mining should not disturb the area outlined for your proposed reclamation effort and you should continue with your reclamation plans. Best wishes on development of the project.

Sincerely,

Lawrence L. Brady
Senior Scientist



K A N S A S

RODERICK L. BREMBY, SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

October 5, 2005

Mr. Larry Brady
Kansas Geological Survey
Kansas University
1930 Constant Ave. - Campus West
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-3726

RE: Sherf Reclamation Project
Linn County, Kansas

Dear Mr. Brady:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Surface Mining Section, is currently performing design services for the reclamation of the Sherf Reclamation project (KS-0383). The project consists of one area located in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 34, Township 22S, Range 25E, in Linn County, Kansas. Please refer to the attached map for the site location.

Reclamation of the site is being considered by the Surface Mining Section to minimize the hazards typically associated with abandoned mining operations. We are requesting a letter from the Kansas Geological Survey stating whether or not it is considered likely that the area of this project will be mined in the future.

We would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (620) 231-8540.

Sincerely,

Murray J. Balk, Chief
Surface Mining Section

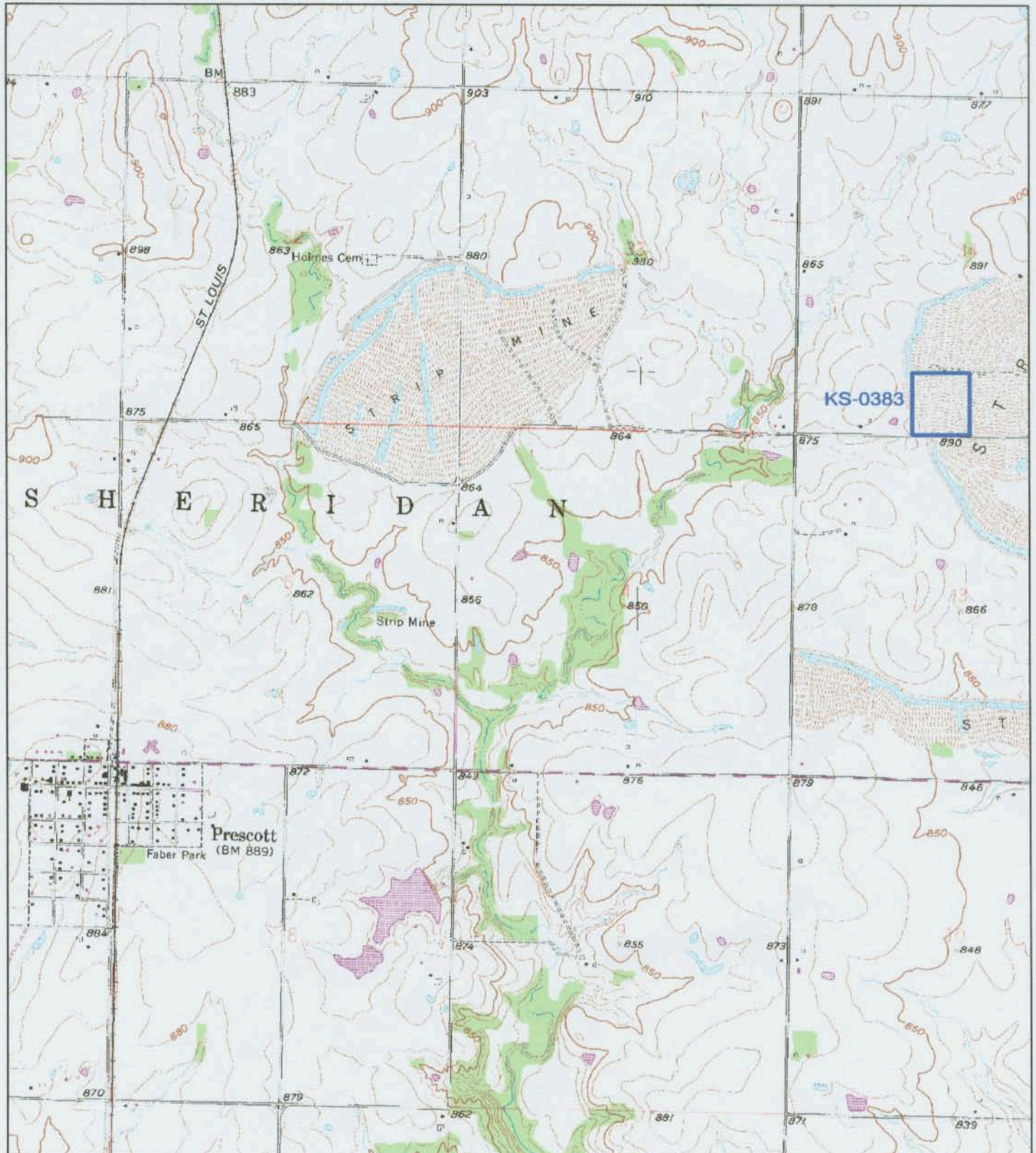
Project file: B-6(1)

SHERF RECLAMATION PROJECT

PAD # KS-0383

SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 22 SOUTH, RANGE 25 EAST
(PRESCOTT QUAD)

1 inch = 2000 feet



Sherf Reclamation Project

Project Description

Sherf Reclamation is an abandoned Mine Land Project located in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 34, Township 22 South, Range 25 East, Linn County, Kansas. The project is being design and administrated by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Surface Mining Section. Eligibility for the project was determined in a letter signed by KDHE staff attorney, Erika Bessey on October 4, 2005.

The Sherf Reclamation Project contains an abandoned strip pit (pond 1) which abuts a county road. The pit has been deemed dangerous due to the proximity and depth of the 300 feet long Priority 2 dangerous highwall to the county road and is described in PAD KS-0383 in the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System. The reclamation addresses this concern by filling in the 36 foot deep pit and creating a 6 foot high earthen barrier along the roadway. The fill will extend north from the county road approximately 180 feet at a 4:1 slope. The design addresses safety concerns while minimizing ecological impacts. Total disturbance is limited to 3 acres with tree clearing on less than two acres (including the borrow area). Pond 1 is isolated from the main pit (pond 2) to the north by an existing coffer dam. The water body to be filled (pond 1) has an average depth of approximately 2 feet with surface area of less than 1600 ft². Approximately 5,000 square yards of erosion control mat will be installed on the 4:1 slope. Appropriate grasses will be planted to prevent erosion and encourage rehabilitation of the both the reclaimed highwall and borrow areas. Tree seedlings will be planted along the top of the new slope. During the revegetation period, erosion will be controlled through the placement of biodegradable sediment logs across the finished grades at appropriate intervals if needed. All runoff will be directed to the one-half mile long abandoned strip pit on the site.