

KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The University of Kansas
1930 Constant Ave
Lawrence KS 66047-3726
phone 785-864-3965
fax 785-864-5317
www.kgs.ku.edu

February 7, 2006

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

Re: Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation
Northeast Barber Project, PAD KS-0408
Sections 26 & 35, T. 28 S., R. 25 E., Crawford Co., Kansas

Dear Murray:

I have reviewed the information that you recently sent to the Kansas Geological Survey concerning the proposed reclamation site titled the "Northeast Barber Project", located in northeast Crawford County, Kansas. The proposed reclamation area (KS-0408) is located in the north-central part of Section 35, and the extreme south-central part of Section 26, both in T. 28 S., R. 25 E. Location of the proposed project is on past strip-mine land disturbed by mining of the Mineral coal. This coal bed is part of the Cabaniss Formation of the Cherokee Group of rocks in southeastern Kansas.

The proposed reclamation efforts would correct problems created by past strip-mining of the Mineral coal, and possibly a small amount of Croweburg coal--a coal bed that overlies the Mineral coal. Underlying the Mineral coal is the Scammon coal that is not mined in this area due to the thin coal bed and quality concerns of the coal. Considerably deeper is the Weir-Pittsburg coal bed, the most extensively mined coal in southeast Kansas. According to the KGS records, most of the Weir-Pittsburg coal under the proposed reclamation area of Section 35, and probably the thin reclamation area in Section 26 has been mined in the past by underground mining methods. Depth to these underground workings is about 70 to 80 feet.

Therefore, the potential for additional strip-mining or possible deep mining of coal at this proposed reclamation site is not a factor of concern. 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 reclamation 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

January 18, 2006

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

FCF:nebrbr:C3

Re: Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation
Northeast Barber Project, PAD KS-0408
Sections 26 & 35, T. 28 S., R. 25 E., Crawford County, Kansas

Dear Mr. Gehard:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Surface Mining Section (SMS) has selected a hazardous problem area to be reclaimed at an abandoned surface coal mine site located in Crawford County, northwest of Mulberry, Kansas. The area is outlined on the attached copy of a portion of the Arma, KS, USGS Quadrangle map. It is located along and south of the county road (E. 660th Avenue) on the section line between Sections 26 and 35, Township 28 South, Range 25 East.

The reclamation work being planned at the site by the Surface Mining Section consists of lowering the county road and filling the end of the pit along the south side of the road to minimize the hazards typically associated with abandoned mine highwall. As such, the SMS is 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.

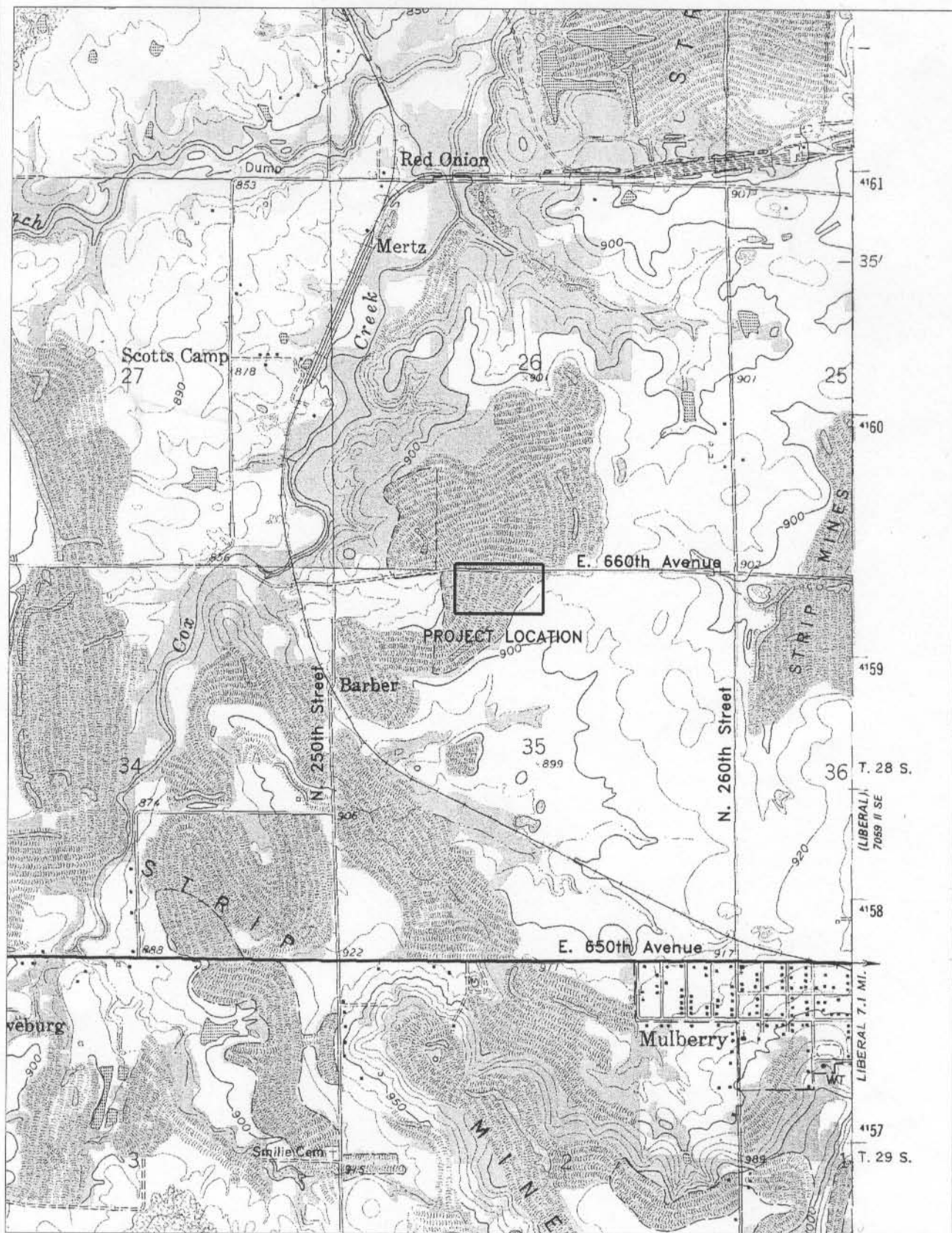
We would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call Mr. Fred Foshag, Jr., me, at (620) 231-8450.

Sincerely,

Murray J. Balk
Section Chief

FCF/MJB:sjd
Enclosure
Cc: TW

nebrbr_kgs.let.doc



KDHE - Surface Mining Section, Engineering	Project: NE BARBER KS-0408
For: NEPA AGENCY REVIEW	Date: January 18, 2006
At: Sections 26 & 35, Township 28 South, Range 25 East; Arma, KS, Quad.	By: FCF
Description: LOCATION OF RECLAMATION PROJECT	Drawing: armaquad.dwg