

October 13, 2008

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

Re: King's Highway Culvert Reclamation Project
KS-0180
Parts of Sections 15 and 16, T. 30 S., R. 25 E.
Crawford County, Kansas

Dear Murray:

I have reviewed the information that you recently sent to the Kansas Geological Survey concerning the proposed addition of a culvert to your reclamation project planned for a small area in the SW/4 Sec. 15, and the SE/4 Sec. 16, T. 30 S., R. 25 E. in Crawford County Kansas. A strip-pit water hazard is present as a result of past strip-mining for the Weir-Pittsburg coal at this location. This coal bed is part of the Cabaniss Formation of the Cherokee Group of rocks in southeastern Kansas.

The proposed addition of a culvert to the planned reclamation efforts should help correct the water problems associated with the north-south road along the east side of the reclamation area. The Weir-Pittsburg coal was the most important coal that was strip-mined and deep-mined in this general area. Within this site most of the Weir-Pittsburg coal was strip-mined, but some coal was possibly mined by underground methods in an early mining period. No coal beds underlie the Weir-Pittsburg coal that could be economically mined on the proposed reclamation sites. Little if any Weir-Pittsburg coal remains in the area planned for the culvert addition.

The potential for additional strip-mining or possible deep mining of Weir-Pittsburg coal at this proposed reclamation project is not a concern. I do not anticipate any additional mining in the area of the planned culvert installation, and you should continue with your reclamation plans.

The above discussion represents our best assessment based on the information that the Kansas Geological Survey has about this locality and/or proposed project at the time of this writing. Other geologic conditions, not discussed herein, or for which the Kansas Geological Survey has no knowledge, may affect the viability or safe operation of the reclamation of this property.

Sincerely,


Lawrence L. Brady
Senior Scientific Fellow



Kathleen Sebelius, Governor
Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

www.kdheks.gov

Division of Environment

September 26, 2008

Dr. William E. Harrison, Director
Kansas Geological Survey
University of Kansas
1930 Constant Ave. - Campus West
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-3726

Re: King's Highway Culvert Reclamation Project
Crawford County, Kansas
KS-0180

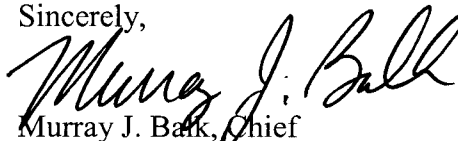
Dear Dr. Harrison:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Surface Mining Section, is currently obtaining design services for the reclamation of the King's Highway Culvert Reclamation Project (KS-0180). The project consists of one area located in Sections 15 and 16, Township 30 South, Range 25 East in Crawford 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. The Surface Mining Section previously obtained clearance on this area and the additional work is for installation of a culvert. Attached is a project description that briefly discusses the area.

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. Bark, Chief
Surface Mining Section

Project file: B-6(1)

King's Highway Culvert Reclamation Project
PAD #KS-0108
Crawford County, Kansas
Project Description
September 2008

The King's Highway Culvert Reclamation Project is an Abandoned Mine Land Project located in Sections 15 and 16, Township 30 South, Range 25 East, Crawford County, Kansas. The project site is on the east side of Pittsburg, Kansas, just north of the intersection of E. 20th Street and Free King's Highway and as shown on the accompanying location map. The reclamation site contains tracts owned by private individuals, the City of Pittsburg and Crawford County.

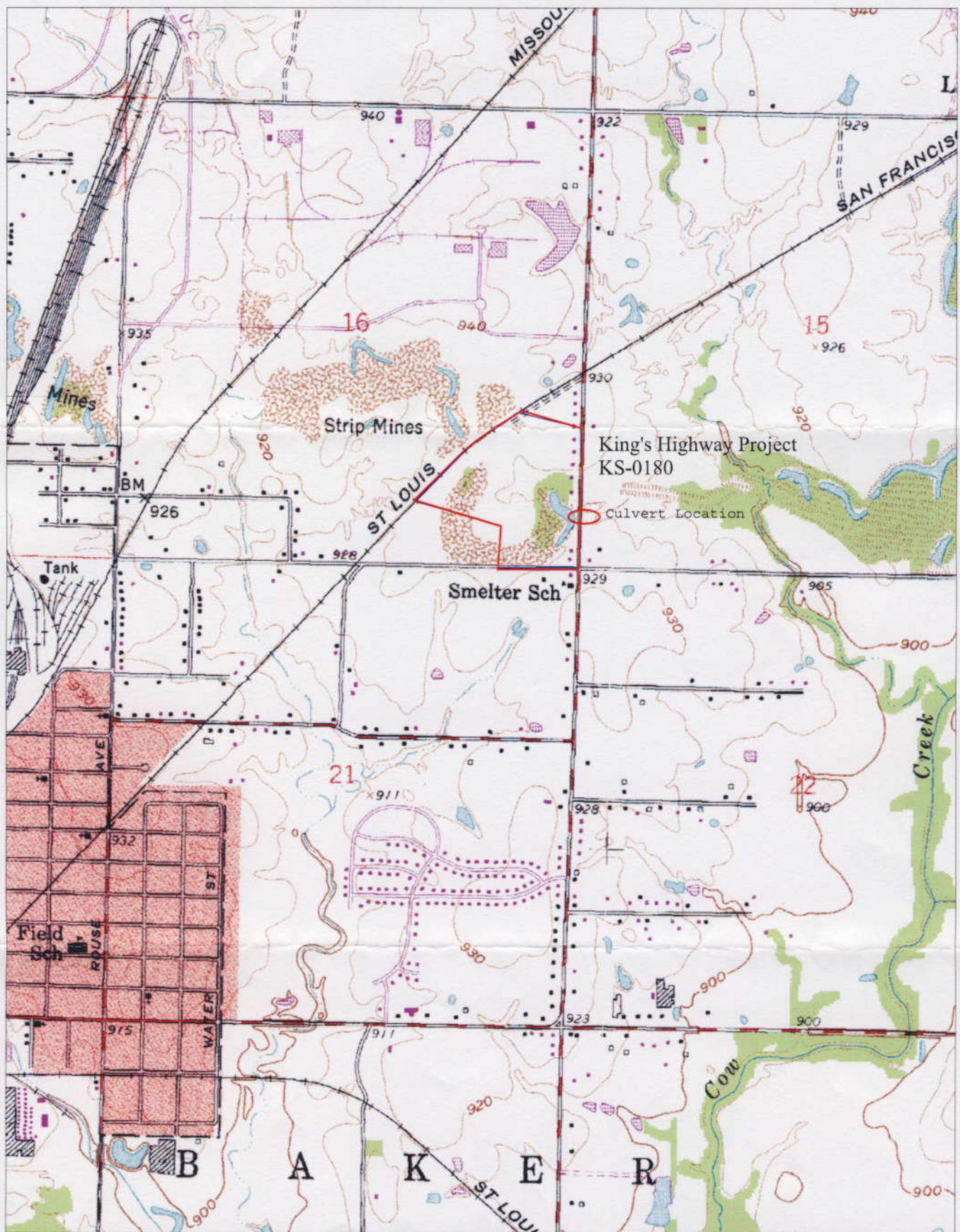
Previous reclamation work was completed on the site in 1998. At that time, it was the recommendation of the Surface Mining Section to install a culvert to carry the water flow from the abandoned strip pit impoundment on the west side of the road into the receiving system to the east. The adjacent landowners were opposed, as were the Crawford County officials responsible for the road in the area. Since the time of the initial reclamation project, the area west of the road has been annexed by the City of Pittsburg. During periods of high precipitation, runoff flows overtop the road. City officials have approached the Surface Mining Section to install a culvert.

The goal of the reclamation is to address the safety hazards while minimizing the impacts to existing vegetation and wildlife and aquatic habitats. The reclamation project is being administered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Surface Mining Section (SMS). It is being funded by the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement through grants to KDHE.

The project at the site calls for installation of 80lf of 18" Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert with a rock inlet and a rock outlet and outlet apron. Disturbance conducted by the Surface Mining Section will be limited to the road surface and adjacent ditch side slopes. There will be less than 0.5 acres disturbance. The road surface will be returned to asphalt by others and the side slopes mulched and seeded.

This Project will mainly benefit the public through the abatement of safety hazards along the highly traveled asphalt road in Pittsburg, Kansas.

The estimated construction cost is \$5,000.



KDHE - Surface Mining Section, Program Services

Project: King's Highway(KS-0180)

For: NEPA Compliance

Date: September 26, 2008

Description: King's Highway Culvert - LOCATION MAP
Pittsburg, KS QUAD.; SEC 15 & 16, T 30 S, R 25 E

By: MNS

Drawing: pbrgquad.dwg