



United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Charleston Field Office  
1027 Virginia Street, East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25301



July 1, 2020

Bradley C. Lambert  
Deputy Director  
Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy  
3405 Mountain Empire Road  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Dear Mr. Lambert:

This letter is to inform you that the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) has completed our internal vetting process for the **Project Reclaim Phase II** Pilot application. We are satisfied with the concept of the project and that it meets the intent of the program.

Please proceed with submitting the necessary documents for sub-recipient approval through the OSM Pittsburgh grants office, if you have not already done so, being mindful no federal funds can be expended without this approval.

Contingent upon sub-recipient approval you may authorize project development activities as included in the Applicant's submitted budget, however construction activities, including any property purchases or equipment purchases, cannot be initiated until OSM issues an official Authorization to Proceed. We also recommend scheduling a meeting with the project partners, OSM, and your office ahead of project work to assist with coordinating the proposed up-front expenditures, NEPA, and any other ESA requirements needed for this project.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

*Richard W. Buckley* For:

Ben Owens, Acting Director  
Charleston Field Office