



# Public Notice

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**U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer  
to Special Public  
Notice # 11-54

Date: December 16, 2011

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## **Announcement of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Scoping Meeting for the Proposed Mason Dixon Mining Complex, Monongalia County, West Virginia**

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH A VESTED INTEREST: The District Engineer has scheduled a Public Scoping Meeting related to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permit application submitted by Wolfpen Knob Development Company for the proposed construction of the Mason Dixon Mining Complex.

PERMIT NUMBER: 2007-765

APPLICANT: Wolfpen Knob Development Company  
1800 Washington Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

PROJECT LOCATION: 1.3 miles northwest of Wadestown, in the Battelle District of  
Monongalia County, West Virginia.

PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to construct the Mason Dixon Mining Complex which involves multiple mining operations including: a deep mine, a preparation plant, refuse disposal site, a water impoundment, and a new rail line. The estimated lifespan of this mining complex is projected to be 20 years. The purpose of this project is to extract bituminous coal from the Pittsburgh coal seam, which will be processed at the at the preparation plant, with refuse being sent to the refuse disposal site. The water impoundment will provide water for operation of the preparation plant and dust control at the deep mine, preparation plant, and associated haul roads. As a result of site development impacts to aquatic resources are anticipated; however, compensatory mitigation will be required for all unavoidable impacts to Waters of the United States.

EIS REQUIREMENT RATIONALIZATION: The District Engineer is requiring an EIS to be prepared to assess the direct, indirect and cumulative environmental, social, and economic effects of issuance of a Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for discharges of dredge and fill material into Waters of the United States associated with the construction of the proposed Mason Dixon Mining Complex. The preparation of an EIS begins with a scoping process/meeting to determine the issues to be addressed in the EIS.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS: One or more public scoping meetings to disseminate information about the proposed project and its potential effects on the human environment and to seek public comments on the proposed project may be conducted. This initial public scoping meeting is being preformed to give all concerned parties an opportunity to submit comments both written and verbally. The submitted comments will help this office focus its environmental review, and aid in the development of finalized National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance document. Additional public information meeting(s) may be held during the draft EIS process. Relevant comments and issues identified by the public and interested parties will be incorporated into the document as appropriate.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: Based on preliminary analysis, the issues to be given significant analysis in the EIS are likely to include, but not be limited to: the effects to surface water and groundwater resources, including water quantity and quality, effects on the immediate and adjacent property owners and nearby communities, downstream hydraulics and hydrology, geologic resources, vegetation, fish and wildlife, threatened and endangered species, soils, prime farmland, noise, light, aesthetics, historic and prehistoric cultural resources, socioeconomics, land use, public roads, and air quality.

DATE AND LOCATION OF SCOPING MEETING:

Clay-Battelle High School  
Route 7 West, Blacksburg, West Virginia  
January 17, 2012  
The meeting will begin at 5:30 PM and conclude at 8:30 PM  
(registration/written comment submittal will begin at 5:30)

In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held at the above location on January 25, 2012. Consult the Corps' website, [www.lrp.usace.army.mil/or/or-f/permits.htm](http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/or/or-f/permits.htm), for meeting updates.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, questions or to submit comments via email, please contact Mr. Jon T. Coleman, Regulatory Project Manager, at (412) 395-7188, or by email at [mason.dixon@usace.army.mil](mailto:mason.dixon@usace.army.mil).

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//SIGNED//

Scott A. Hans  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

