



West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Watershed Improvement Branch
§319 Program

Mining Remediation Contingency Plan Policy

WHEREAS:

- US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requires contingency plans (CPs) for mining remediation projects.
- WV Dept. of Environmental Protection Agency (WVDEP), Watershed Improvement Branch (WIB's) §319 Program must provide guidance and hand down requirements consistent with USEPA requirements and guidance.
- All parties truly want projects to be safe and effective.

WVDEP-WIB adopts the following policy.

For every mining remediation project **funded by §319**, there must be a contingency plan. CPs may cover more than one project. Where possible, WIB recommends completion of contingency plans at the watershed based plan (WBP) scale. WBP scale CPs will need to be updated so that all projects covered are accurately described and addressed. CPs must provide the following information:

1. Name, location and description of the site and how to access to all included projects.
2. Description of the risk of unplanned releases of mine drainage.
3. On site control actions to be taken if an unplanned release occurs.
4. Who will be notified if an unplanned release occurs.

CPs will be kept by and available from various sources:

1. WVDEP-WIB will maintain an electronic copy of all CPs.
2. CPs will be on site during construction of projects.
3. A county emergency services agency, selected by the watershed association after discussions with emergency medical services, police, fire departments, local emergency preparedness departments, and any other appropriate agency, will also hold a copy of the plan, which will be updated during construction of each additional project.

Note: CPs are required for mining projects funded with earlier §319 grants, which are planned to be constructed in 2017. The requirement must be met for all mining construction projects funded in future years.

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