

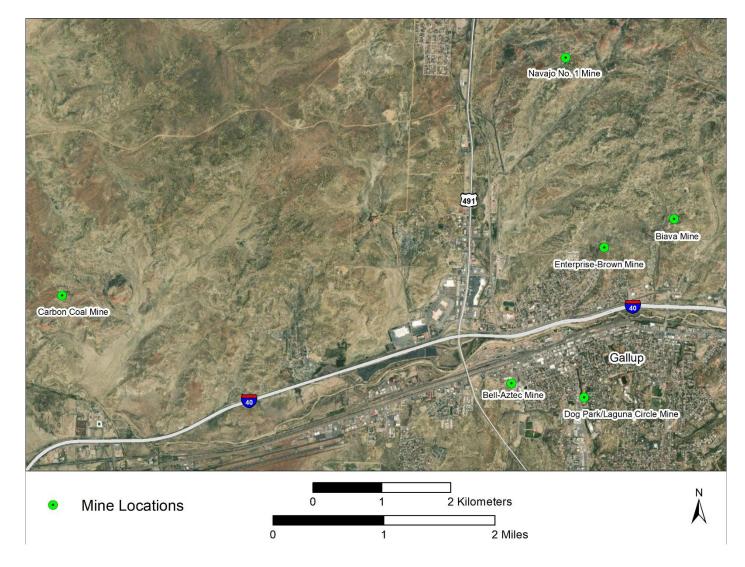




## Gallup Area Mine Safeguarding and Mitigation Projects

The Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program is proposing various mine safeguarding and mitigation efforts for six separate locations in and around Gallup, New Mexico. The Gallup area has a long history of coal mining dating back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and this mining legacy has occasionally left hazards such as on-going underground coal fires and unprotected vent and adit openings. The mission of the AML is to address public health and safety risks posed by abandoned mines throughout New Mexico and this flyer provides an update on current efforts within the Gallup area.

We Would Like to Hear from You! Please review the following information and provide comments by Wednesday, July 21, 2021. Contact information is located on the opposite page.









Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

## Gallup Area Mine Safeguarding and Mitigation Efforts:

- The Gallup Dog Park/Laguna Circle site is a 2.8-acre area located at the City of Gallup Dog Park between South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Laguna Circle. Between 1984 and 1985, AML stabilized the landform and backfilled one of the two adits at this location. AML seeks to safeguard the other mine adit and make minor drainage improvements at this location. This involves using an excavator to investigate the northern adit, backfilling (if appropriate) with on-site materials, regrading the site to facilitate appropriate drainage, and construction of erosion-control features to tie into the existing stormwater channel.
- The Bell-Aztec Mine is located south of West Aztec Ave. and east of 11<sup>th</sup> Street. It is a 1.1-acre area and is the location of an underground fire burning along the coal seam and venting to the surface. AML seeks to safeguard the fire-venting location through installation of approximately 200 feet of barbed-wire fence around the perimeter of the fire-vent location. Warning signs to inform people of the danger would also be installed.
- **The Biava No. 3 Coal Mine** is a 14.75-acre location to the northeast of Gomez Dr., a residential street on the northeast end of Gallup. AML seeks to safeguard the fire-venting location through installation of approximately 600 feet of barbed-wire fence around the perimeter of the fire-vent location. Warning signs to inform people of the danger would also be installed.
- The Carbon Coal Mine was a strip mine that operated from 1978 to 1984. The area is 13.18acres and is north of the community of Mentmore. The mine is the location of a coal fire burning along the coal seam and venting at the surface. AML seeks to safeguard the fire-venting location through installation of approximately 100 feet of barbed-wire fence around the perimeter of the fire-vent location. Warning signs to inform people of the danger would also be installed.
- The Enterprise-Brown Mine is a 22.46-acre area located at the north end of East Adams Avenue on the northeast side of Gallup. AML proposes to delineate the extent of the fire through exploratory drilling and geophysical investigation followed by excavation and extinguishment of the fires. Fires would be extinguished by placing a layer of soil over the fire to limit airflow. Specific adits and vents that are currently open also will be closed as an additional safeguard measure.
- **The Navajo Mine** is a 29.28-acre area located north of the Gallup Flea Market and east of US 491. AML proposes to delineate the extent of the fire through exploratory drilling and geophysical investigation followed by excavation and extinguishment of the fires. Fires would be extinguished by placing a layer of soil over the fire to limit airflow. Specific adits and vents that are currently open also will be closed as an additional safeguard measure.

Schedule: Safeguard fencing will be completed for the Gallup Dog Park/Laguna Circle, Bell-Aztec, Biava No. 3, and Carbon Coal locations by late summer of 2021. Exploratory drilling and geophysical investigation will be initiated at the Navajo and Enterprise-Brown mines in Fall of 2021 with additional mitigation measures planned for 2022.

Questions and Comments: Please contact Jeff Fredine, Parametrix at 9600 San Mateo Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113, <u>Jfredine@parametrix.com</u>, 505.821.4700 by July 21, 2021.