



JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

News Release
For Immediate Release
June 24, 2008
Contact: Jim Springer
(801) 538-5324
jimspringer@utah.gov

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON ABANDONED MINE PROJECT

(Salt Lake City, Utah) -- The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program (AMRP) is seeking public input on a proposed abandoned mine reclamation project located in the Lakeside Mountains. An open house will be held Thursday, June 26, 2008, at the Department of Natural Resources, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, in Room 1010 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Lakeside Mountains are approximately 45 miles west of Salt Lake City. The AMRP plans to seal 31 abandoned hard rock mines using several tested closure methods such as backfill, walls, gates and grates. The work is scheduled to begin in late August.

The AMRP is responsible for safeguarding abandoned mines that present physical safety hazards to the public. The abandoned mine program complies with all environmental laws and regulations during its project development phase. Threatened or endangered plants and animal species, cultural and historic resources, and wetland values are all considered in planning how to closure these dangerous mine openings.

Abandoned mines often pose a significant danger to unwary adventurers and should be left alone. "The motto of our program is 'Stay Out and Stay Alive,'" said Luci Malin, program administrator. "As summer gets underway we will all be outside more enjoying the wonderful recreational opportunities Utah has to offer. Just be safe and don't go inside abandoned mines for any reason," Malin advised.

For more information contact Connie Jo Garcia, project manager, at Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite, 1210, P. O. Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114 or telephone (801) 538-5340.

###

O:\Projects\045Tooele\913Lakeside\EnvAss\Press_release_pub_meet.doc

