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1988

### Oral History Interview: Sandy Adams

Sandy Adams

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WEST VIRGINIA STRIP MINING

Public Hearing held by: WV Dept. of Energy

June 28, 1988

SPEAKER: Sandy Adams

WVSM - 6

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Public Hearing held by W.Va. Department of Energy in Lincoln County, West Virginia on June 28, 1988 regarding an application by Black Gold Coal Co., and Mountain Black Diamond Coal Co. to strip mine at Six Mile Creek in Lincoln County.

Statement by Sandy Adams:

My name is Sandy Adams and I'm representing "The Hills of W.Va.". There are 500 fruit trees on Buffalo Creek. There are also trailers, where houses used to be on Buffalo Creek, because of a certain \_\_\_\_\_ dam that would not hold water that ran off the hills that had been stripped! One of the names on the permit application is Sandra Perry, President of Black Gold. In October of '87, Sandra Perry was inquiring about \_\_\_\_\_ financial status and identified herself as an employee of Delbert Burchett. In the earlier half of this year, Sandra identified herself as a business consultant at the January 29th meeting in Hamlin. A few months later, Sandra was denying any previous business dealings with \_\_\_\_\_ whatsoever. Also, in the earlier part of this year, Sandra has misrepresented herself as owning property which she was merely leasing to put horses on; no one has ever seen the horses. And, at another time as Delbert Burchett's spouse. Sandra Perry and Mike Lipscomb and \_\_\_\_\_ have promised jobs running surface mining equipment to various people in the area, but have failed to identify their mystery contractor, who will be dispensing those jobs. I suggest that there is no said contractor. Sandra Perry and Delbert Burchett have offered to purchase the property of some of those opposed to them, but the property owners of this area still hold title to the property. WAKE UP! Whatever term you want to use, misspeaking, misleading, false promises, LIES! This is what Black Gold and Black Diamond Coals are doing. Their permit application, laughable as it is, is meaningless anyway; coming from people to constantly misrepresent themselves, who lie

to other people. This is the sort of thing that is easy enough to see through; the information along with facts about existing permit violations are clear. But, the Department of Energy seems unable to collate what people, some of whom never even graduated from high school, can discover in a few hours of their own time. When I wrote to the Department of Energy about this permit application, I requested an on-site inspection; my registered letter came in the mail about that on-site inspection on the 15th. The inspection took place on the 16th of June. And I was unable to make that appointment. Frankly, I feel that I should be paid for doing the D. O. E.'s job for them. Knowing that that won't happen, and since I and others, who think as I do, will continue to do the D. O. E.'s job for them, and for West Virginia, I suggest the D. O. E. be disbanded and that it's last act be to deny this permit application to Black Diamond, Black Coal. Thank you.