



Frank Keating
Governor

FILED

JAN 26 2000

**OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2000-02

I, Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Sections 1 and 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, because of my growing concern for the health and safety of the citizens of Ottawa County as a result of environmental and natural resource development and protection issues, in the former mining district in Ottawa County including the Tar Creek Superfund Site, hereby establish the Tar Creek Superfund Task Force.

A number of activities have been conducted in the area in and around the Tar Creek Superfund Site intended to abate immediate environmental and health risks to residents of the area. These activities have been primarily accomplished through Federal Government programs. During the course of these activities, several major concerns have been identified that may or may not be adequately addressed by the Federal Government and its remediation programs.

There are a myriad of issues that threaten the quality of life and the environment in the Tar Creek Superfund Site and surrounding areas of the former mining district. Oklahoma must be proactive in assuming a vital leadership role in identifying solutions and resources available to address these issues. Oklahoma must also be proactive in working with the Federal Government in coordinating current remediation efforts. The membership of the Task Force shall consist of the following members:

Secretary of Environment
Member of the Senate representing District One
Member of the House of Representatives representing District Seven
Chair of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
Director of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
One person representing Miami, Oklahoma Businesses
One person representing the Business community in the Grand Lake Area
Not more than three other individuals with special knowledge or expertise who would be of assistance to the Task Force in performing their duties.

The Secretary of Environment shall serve as Chairman of the Task Force. All Task Force members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Staffing and support services shall be provided by the Office of the Secretary of Environment and the Oklahoma Department of

Environmental Quality. The Task Force shall meet at such times and places as the Chairman deems appropriate in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act.

The Task Force is directed to actively seek information and suggestions from local citizens in towns, colleges, universities, local governmental entities, and civic groups directly affected by the issues involved. In addition, the Task Force shall request assistance in formulating the issues and reaching conclusions for recommendation from the following entities:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of the Regional Administrator
Oklahoma Office of Attorney General
Ottawa Reclamation Authority
Oklahoma Conservation Commission
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Oklahoma Department of Mines
Oklahoma Department of Transportation
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Active involvement and participation in the efforts of the Task Force shall be sought from the following organizations:

United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Any other division or department of the United States Department of the Interior with information or assistance which will be helpful to the mission of the Task Force

The Task Force shall have the following duties:

1. Examine, identify, and establish priorities regarding the health and environmental threats that exist within the boundaries of the former mining district, or as a result of activities conducted within the former mining district, with special emphasis on those threats found within the boundaries of the Tar Creek Superfund Site.
2. Make recommendations for the most feasible solutions to those threats, listing the major impediments to achieving satisfactory solutions.
3. Identify all potential resources available to assist in the recommended remediation efforts.
4. Make recommendations regarding any legal, legislative, or administrative actions that might be necessary to draw upon those resources.

5. Analyze the effectiveness of past and current activities to restore and protect human health, safety, and environmental quality.

6. Make recommendations for structural and operational changes, public-private partnerships, incentives, and other measures appropriate to protect the welfare of the local citizenry, environment, and natural resources.

7. Recommend methods necessary to improve coordination and communication between involved parties.

If subcommittees of the Task Force are deemed necessary, the Chairman may appoint members from outside of the Task Force to organize, coordinate, and participate in the work of such subcommittees. Subcommittee tasks shall be assigned by the Chairman and reviewed by the Task Force. These subcommittees may be formed to address the following specific concerns:

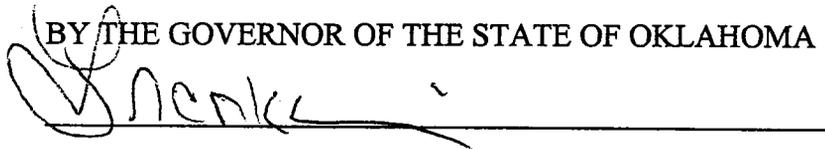
- ◆ Long-term and short-term health effects from lead exposure.
- ◆ Mine shaft plugging and safety.
- ◆ Subsidence and sink holes.
- ◆ Beneficial use of "chat" piles and mill ponds.
- ◆ Ground and surface water quality engineering and treatment systems.
- ◆ Native American issues.
- ◆ Drainage and flooding.
- ◆ Natural resource damage claims.

The Task Force shall submit to the Governor its final Report identifying the issues involved and making recommendations for addressing these issues on or before October 1, 2000.

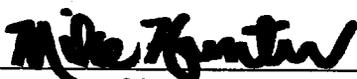
This executive order shall be distributed to the Oklahoma Office of the Secretary of Environment, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma Department of Mines, Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Oklahoma Office of Attorney General, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and Ottawa Reclamation Authority who shall cause the provisions of this order to be implemented.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, this 26th day of January, 2000.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA



Attest:


Secretary of State