



Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board

Scoping Paper for the Management
Audit Committee June 30, 2011

Management Audit Committee

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Background

The Legislative Service Office (LSO) received a request to draft a scoping paper on the Miners' Hospital Board to primarily address if revenue generated by certain trust lands can be used for purposes other than providing health and wellness programs for active, retired, or contract miners.

This scoping paper will address this primary question first, and then address other areas that may be of interest to the Management Audit Committee: history of the Miners' Hospital; history of the Miners' Hospital Board; and current services to miners.

Use of Land Grants from the Federal Government

Wyoming received land grants from the federal government for specific purposes according to the Act of Admission for Wyoming's statehood. Related to the 30,000 acres, the Act of Admission (Section 11) states that *"for a hospital for miners who shall become disabled or incapacitated to labor, while working in the mines of the state, 30,000 acres."*

Section 2 states, *"the objects of said hospital shall be to provide sustenance, care and medical and surgical attention for all miners, who shall become disabled or incapacitated to labor while working in the mines of the state, and who shall be in need of such sustenance, care or medical or surgical attention."*

Wyoming agreed to accept the grants of land from the federal government with its conditions and limitations imposed by Congress. More specifically, Article 18, Section 2 of the Wyoming Constitution states *"the proceeds from the sale and rental of all lands and other property donated, granted or received, or that may hereafter be donated, granted or received, from the United States or any other source, shall be inviolably appropriated and applied to the specific purposes specified in the original grant or gifts."*

It should be noted that the current acreage is less now than what was granted during Wyoming's Act of Admission. According to the Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI), approximately half of the land was sold, exchanged, or condemned by the United States. The following table provides additional information.

Table 1
Disposition of Originally Granted 30 Acres

Acreage Type	Beginning	Disposed	Sale	Exchange	Taylor Grazing Act Exchange	Condemned
Surface	29,989.63	15,090.08	14,090.84	160	320	519.24
Subsurface	29,597.13	10,987.87	10,987.87	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Legislative Service Office from information provided by OSLI.

Fund Balances: Currently, there are three accounts related to the Wyoming Miners’ Hospital Board. The first account is the miner’s hospital account within the permanent land fund (L01) created by W.S. 9-4-310 (a) (ix). The second account is the miner’s hospital income account within the permanent land income fund (N01) created by W.S. 9-4-310 (c) (v). The third account is the Miners’ Hospital Board account (490) created by W.S. 30-6-102.

As of June 20, 2010 the fund balances are as follows: Fund L01 (\$46,333,745.09); Fund N01 (\$38,354,113); and Fund 490 (\$0.00). It should be noted the Income Fund (N01) is used for Board expenditures, as opposed to Fund 490. According to officials from the Board, State Treasurer’s Office, and the State Auditor’s Office, the previous Executive Director of the Board did not use Fund 490 because the legislation did not specify an actual appropriation to the fund.

Revenue sources for Fund L01 (Permanent) include revenues from disposition of earlier lands and revenues from the following: oil and gas royalties; sodium and trona royalties; right of way easements; and surface damage payments. Revenue sources for Fund N01 (Income) include interest payments, as well as lease rental payments: bentonite; special use; coal; grazing; oil and gas; sodium and trona; uranium; and other uses.

Office of the Attorney General Opinion: In 1999, the Attorney General of the State of Wyoming was asked by the Governor if there are restrictions on the various funds mentioned above. More specifically, the questions and answers were provided as follows:

“Question #1: What are the restrictions on the Miners’ Hospital Fund? If the fund were used for other than the stated purpose, what ramifications would result?”

Answer #1: So long as the funds are spent in a manner reasonably calculated to provide hospital services to disabled or incapacitated miners then the purpose of the land grant is fulfilled. Any other use may result in litigation.

Question #2: Is there a mechanism to free the Miners’ Hospital Funds for other uses?

Answer #2: Congress could amend the Act of Admission to free the funds for other uses.”

Based on the Attorney General's Opinion, the answer with respect to the use of funds for other purposes is "no."

History of the Wyoming Miners' Hospital and Wyoming Miners' Board

Wyoming Miners' Hospital

The Constitution of Wyoming includes the authority for construction of the "*Miners' Hospital.*" The authority was granted when the territory was admitted to Wyoming on July 10, 1890. Unlike other land grants, Congress did not specify a location for a miners' hospital.

The Act of Admission addresses the location of the hospital. Section 1 states the "*hospital shall be located by a vote of the people, as hereinafter provided, which shall be a state charitable institution.*" As a result, a general election in 1892 determined that Rock Springs should be the location for the new hospital.

In 1893, the Wyoming Legislature appropriated money for the construction of a hospital located at or near the town of Rock Springs. (1893 Wyoming Session Laws, Ch. 18). Revised statutes of 1899 changed the name of the hospital from the Wyoming State Miners' Hospital to the Wyoming General Hospital. In 1947, the Legislature conveyed the Wyoming General Hospital to Sweetwater County. That same act abolished the Wyoming General Hospital and authorized Sweetwater County to administer the revenue from the 30,000 acres. More specifically, "*...and the income from proceeds derived from the sales of said lands or portion thereof, shall, as they accrue, be paid to said county to be used for the purposes for which said Federal Grant was made.*"

It should be noted that a 1983 Attorney General's Opinion explained that revenues from the 30,000 acres could be paid to any specific hospital, as long as the money was being used to treat miners. For example, "*because there is no current Wyoming statute directing that funds received as the result of a grant of 30,000 acres of land to support a miners' hospital be paid to any specific hospital, it appears that these monies could be paid to any hospital that treats miners who have become disabled or incapacitated to labor while working in the mines of the State.*"

The Opinion also reminded readers of Section 12 of the Act of Admission as follows: "*...and the lands granted by this section shall be held, appropriated, and disposed of exclusively for the purposes herein mentioned, in such manner as the legislature of the state may provide.*"

As a result of the transfer of authority to Sweetwater County, the hospital was renamed the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County. After discussions with officials at the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County, that hospital has not had a miners' department since 2001. However, the hospital does provide treatment for miners who seek treatment, which is paid mostly by company healthcare insurance.

The following table summarizes a brief history of the Wyoming Miners' Hospital.

Table 2
Timeline of Miners' Hospital Development

Year	Action
1890	Initial authority for construction of Miners' Hospital within the Constitution.
1893	Wyoming General Hospital is built in Rock Springs. Several additions are built over the next 50 years.
1948	Ownership of the Wyoming General Hospital was transferred to Sweetwater County and the hospital was renamed Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County.
1978	Old hospital is closed and a new hospital (\$13 million facility) is opened with an additional expansion in 1984 to add ambulatory diagnostic facilities.
*2008	54,000 square feet of new construction are added and 64,000 of existing space is renovated.

Source: Legislative Service Office summary.

*According to Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital officials, there is no longer a miners' department at the hospital. However, the hospital does treat miners, as they would any other individual.

Miners' Hospital Board

Prior to the creation of the Board, there was initial concern about the unmet health needs of miners in Wyoming. This prompted an independent study of health care needs of Wyoming's miners by BBC Research & Consulting. The study is entitled "*The Health Care Needs Assessment of Wyoming Miners.*" The study can be accessed at <http://attorneygeneral.state.wy.us/miners.pdf>.

According to the report, Wyoming miners typically suffer from pulmonary/ respiratory, hearing loss, cardiac and musculoskeletal conditions. Miners are more likely to suffer from these conditions than the general population in Wyoming. These overall conclusions resulted in the creation of the State Miners' Hospital Board in 2001 (W.S. 30-6-101).

The Board consist of seven (7) members representing miners, including at least one (1) member from Sweetwater County and at least one (1) member from Campbell County, all appointed by the Governor. It also consists of one (1) member of the Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital Board, appointed by a majority vote of the Sweetwater County Commission and one (1) member of the Campbell County Memorial Hospital Board, appointed by a majority vote of the Campbell County Commission.

The Board was tasked to assist in the overall improvement of the health of miners by accomplishing the following: **1)** establish free programs to assist with the purchase of hearing aids; **2)** establish medical diagnostic screenings through its Mobile Wellness Testing Program; and **3)** assist with prescription drug costs; and **4)** assist with unpaid medical costs related to cardiac, respiratory, hearing and musculoskeletal conditions.

As a result of the transfer of authority of grant funds to the Hospital Board, it was directed to develop a comprehensive health care plan for Wyoming miners including contracting with health care providers and promulgating rules and regulations for the participation of miners in these programs. In addition, the legislation enabling the transfer of ownership and responsibility to the Board, also granted it authority to expend monies generated from the miner's hospital income account within the permanent land fund account created pursuant to W.S. 9-4-310 (c) (v). The statute also limits the amount of money to expend by stating "*the amount available for appropriation annually to the miner's hospital board shall not exceed an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the balance of both the miner's hospital account within the permanent land fund created by W.S. 9-4-310 (a) (ix) and the miner's hospital income account within the permanent land income fund created by W.S. 9-4-310 (c) (v).*"

In 2002, the Board of County Commissioners of Sweetwater County, Wyoming and the Board of Trustees of the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County, Wyoming sued the Governor of Wyoming, the Wyoming State Treasurer, and the Wyoming State Auditor. The Board of Commissioners claimed that the transfer of funds to the board "*...violated a federal trust created by Act of Admission...*" and stands in contrast to the Wyoming Constitution. However, the court held that the Act of Admission did not create a trust for the Miners' Hospital, and subsequently dismissed the case. Sweetwater County appealed the district court ruling. The U.S. Court of Appeals, though, dismissed the case due to a lack of standing on the part of Sweetwater County.

Miners' Services Provided by the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board

As stated previously, there is no longer a Miners' Hospital, nor is there a miners' department at the Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital. However, as a result of authority granted in W.S. 30-6-102 (b) (iv), the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board can contract with service providers with respect to the Act.

The Board has a contact with Employee Benefit Management Services (EBMS), Inc., which handles miner registrations, eligibility, auditing of medical claims, RX and hearing aid claims, as well as payment of claims. These services relate to the programs provided by the Board as a result of the BBC Research & Consulting study.

The following table provides information on funding available to the Board to carry out its responsibilities under the Act.

Table 3
Miners' Hospital Board Budget Request
BFY 2011

Miners' Hospital Board	Object Code Series	BFY 2011 Appropriation
Personal Services	100	\$200,074
Supportive Services	200	\$64,431
Restrictive Services	300	\$13,836
Cent. Serv./ Data Serv.	400	\$8,922
Space Rental	500	\$19,200
Grants & Aid Payment	600	\$5,469,916
Non-operating Expenditures	800	\$0
Contractual Services	900	\$155,744
Total		\$ 5,932,123

Source: Legislative Service Office summary of information from Miners' Hospital Board, 2011-2012 Biennium Budget Request.

Products and Services Provided by Miners' Hospital Board

The Board has promulgated rules (Chapter 2-Services for Miners) related to eligibility for services; benefit programs; eligibility for medical assistance benefit; acceptance of claims; payment of accepted claims; and hearing aids.

The three primary programs created by the Board (in order of creation), are as follows:

1. The Hearing Aid Purchasing Assistance Program;
2. Mobile Wellness Testing Program; and
3. Miners' Medical Assistance Program.

Hearing Aid Purchasing Assistance Program: This program helps miners to buy purchasing hearing aids. The dollar amount can be as much as \$2,000 depending on whether the provider is part of the preferred network. The Board assists directly by paying the provider. If the miner chooses a provider out-of-network, the dollar support is capped at \$1,500. In order to receive the assistance, the miner has to register with the board, and fill out a hearing aid claim form. Both forms need to be submitted to EBMS who pays the claims on behalf of the board. According to the Board's website, it works with 22 providers related to this program.

This was the first program developed by the Board. According to the Executive Director *"we saw that as a need that was not being met by many of the miners' employers or Medicare and fell into the age category where more financial assistance was needed."*

Mobile Wellness Testing Program: The Board offers free wellness testing through a mobile health screening program. It has contracted with two companies, MOST Healthcare Systems, Inc. and Campbell County Memorial Hospital to deliver these services. They provide mobile

testing vans that drive to various community locations and towns near mines *“and in some cases to the mines themselves.”* According to the Board’s website, the program tests 4,000 each year in the following towns: Rock Springs; Green River; Kemmerer; Rawlins; Casper; Greybull; Lovell; Riverton; Douglas; Gillette; Sheridan; Wright; Guernsey; and Newcastle. Test results are mailed directly to the miners. Tests include the following: blood chemistry; blood count; blood pressure; EKG/bike/treadmill; hearing; PSA; pulmonary; vision; X-ray; weight; height; stool; and body fat.

This was the second program developed by the Board. The Board believed that although some companies provided this benefit, employees who worked for companies that did not, were falling through the cracks. According to the Executive Director, *“some employers offered these benefits; some did not and the smaller the operation, the less the benefits the miners had. We saw this as a benefit that especially those miners with no benefit, retired or disabled would benefit from.”*

Miners’ Medical Assistance Program: Miners, who incur costs for medical care associated with hearing, pulmonary, cardiac or musculoskeletal conditions, are eligible for up to \$5,000 to support pay for unpaid medical bills for these conditions. This program does not assist with the purchase of hearing aids.

In addition, miners who need prescription medicine for the same conditions are also eligible to use a portion or all of the \$5,000 for required prescriptions. The above mentioned registration form can be used for both programs. Again, the Board uses EBMS to process and pay claims. In other words, the Board is a secondary payer and only pays eligible claims after the miner’s primary insurer has been billed and paid.

This was the last program developed by the Board, which needed the most thought. According to the Executive Director, *“because the BBC study already pointed out the four areas that saw a higher degree of medical problems and our statute directly names those four areas, they are the only diagnoses that are eligible for assistance. These four areas are cardiac, respiratory, hearing (outside hearing aids) and muscle skeletal.”*

From what we understand, caps to certain services like chiropractic and additional coverage of prescription drugs (on a reimbursement basis) have occurred throughout the existence of the program. The Board is also considering a *“hardship”* category for those individuals that meet the requirements as miners, have high prescription drug, but no medical coverage.

Eligibility for Services

W.S. 30-6-102 (e) (ii) and (iii) define eligibility criteria for miners to receive medical services support through the Miners’ Hospital Board. An individual is eligible for the services provided by the board if the individual has been a current resident of Wyoming for at least one year. While being a resident of Wyoming, the individual must have twelve consecutive months of service at a mine site in Wyoming or a contiguous state or must have been injured while at

work in a mine in Wyoming or contiguous state and be unable to continue working as a miner as a consequence of the injury. Mining refers to the removal of coal, trona, bentonite, uranium, sand & gravel, gypsum and other stone mining.

Table 4
Total Number of Miners Assisted by State Miners’ Hospital Board Programs

Fiscal Year	Numbers of Miners
2008	5,337
2007	4,750
2006	5,339
2005	3,582
2004	2,950
Total	21,958

Source: Legislative Service Office from information provided by the State Miners’ Hospital Board.

Other Concerns Miners May Face

Mental Health: The social isolation that miners experience to work at mines in Wyoming and the challenges of shift work on the miners’ health provide diverse health challenges that the BBC report did not fully address. Mental health concerns for shift workers were researched; however, due to a lack of data that directly address the incidence of social, economic or mental stresses for miners, certain revealed measures, such as domestic violence and suicide rates have been used in the BBC report to demonstrate additional miners’ health needs.

The report cites two mental health providers who indicated an increasing trend among miners referred by the courts for domestic violence from 1995 to 2000. Representatives of the police force in these areas stated however, that they do not see more domestic arrest cases among miners than other residents in their county. However, the number of arrest and the occurrence of domestic violence do not have to be proportional.

Substance Abuse: In addition, the report had the following to say about the risks of substance abuse among miners:

“There was disagreement among stakeholders as to whether or not alcohol abuse or dependency was a problem for people working in the mining industry. Some miners and mine company officials said that alcohol or drug abuse was a problem and they linked it to the relatively high incomes of miners. Other miners and mine company officials said that while alcohol abuse may have been a problem in the past, the problems have diminished as miners have grown older.

Mental health and primary care physicians were somewhat more likely to indicate that miners abuse alcohol more often than non-miners. One counselor said that miners ‘use alcohol and drugs as a form of self-medication.’ Police department interviewees in Campbell and Sweetwater County acknowledged high levels of alcohol usage amongst many members of the

community, miner or not. While drug activity has increased in recent years, in the opinion of police, miners are no more likely to use drugs than people of other occupation. According to the interviewees, the increased usage of drug testing has diminished problems as 'people who do drugs are being weeded out of the mining industry.'"

Stress and Family Problems: Miners indicated in interviews in the 2000 report that they were concerned about stress due to production pressures and the instability of the mining industry. They also stated that shift work, particularly the types of rotating shifts common to surface coal mining in the Powder River Basin made it difficult to sleep and sometimes caused family problems. There was disagreement among miners about the prevalence of substance abuse. However, all interviewees indicated that increased drug-testing by companies has lowered drug use. There was equally disagreement about the prevalence of alcohol abuse.

The report concludes this particular issue saying that the lack of data regarding mental health measures in general and in particular for miners makes it difficult to draw quantitative conclusions. Even the anecdotal evidence as quoted here does not allow conclusive judgments. This is an area that should get revisited.

Possible Audit Questions:

1. Determine how well the Board monitors the effectiveness and customer service of current Board programs and whether modifications to programs or its comprehensive plan for miners should be occurring.
2. Determine whether it would benefit miners in Wyoming to move forward with requesting Congress to modify the Acts of Admission to provide additional benefits to miners who suffer from other non-direct issues not related to mining.
 - a. Preventive measures to avoid additional costs in the future.
 - i. Alcohol and drug abuse prevention.
 - b. Environmental clean-up to prevent mining related health problems for miners, their families, and community members.
3. Determine the process by which the Acts of Admission could be modified to expand or change the use of revenue generated as a result of lands granted to Wyoming.



APPENDIX A

Selected Statutes – Wyoming Miners’ Hospital Board

CHAPTER 6 - STATE MINER'S HOSPITAL BOARD

30-6-101. State miner's hospital board.

(a) The state miner's hospital board is created consisting of the following members:

(i) One (1) member of the Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital Board appointed by a majority vote of the county commissioners or the county commissioners shall appoint a designee if a Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital Board member cannot serve;

(ii) Seven (7) members representing miners, including at least one (1) member from Sweetwater county and at least one (1) member from Campbell county all appointed by the governor; and

(iii) One (1) member of the Campbell County Memorial Hospital Board appointed by a majority vote of the county commissioners or the county commissioners shall appoint a designee if the a Campbell County Memorial Hospital Board member cannot serve.

(b) Except for initial terms pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, terms of members shall be for four (4) years. Any vacancy shall be filled by the designated appointing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term within not more than thirty (30) days following the date on which the vacancy occurred. Any voting member may serve not more than two (2) consecutive terms. However, a member may be reappointed after a two (2) year absence. Each member shall serve until his successor is appointed and has been qualified. The governor may remove any member appointed by him pursuant to W.S. 9-1-202.

(c) For the initial board, two (2) members appointed by the governor shall serve a term of four (4) years and two (2) members appointed by the governor shall serve a term of two (2) years. Two (2) members appointed from the Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital Board shall serve a term of four (4) years and two (2) members shall serve a term of two (2) years. The member appointed from the Campbell County Memorial Hospital Board shall serve a term of four (4) years.

(d) The members shall receive per diem and travel expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized under W.S. 9-3-102 and 9-3-103 for state employees when on or conducting official business.

(e) The board shall meet not less than two (2) times each year. At the initial meeting of the board, the board shall elect a chairman. The board is authorized to hire an executive director and secretary to provide administrative support to the board, the legislative oversight committee and the miner's hospital. The executive director and the secretary shall be located in Sweetwater county unless otherwise directed by the board.

30-6-102. Account created; expenditures; report.

(a) There is created the miner's hospital board account. Not later than July 1, 2001, the state treasurer shall credit to the account six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) from interest accrued within the miner's hospital account within the permanent land income fund created by W.S. 9-4-310(c)(v). The amount available for appropriation annually to the miner's hospital board account shall not exceed an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the balance of both the miner's hospital account within the permanent land fund created by W.S. 9-4-310(a)(ix) and the miner's hospital income account within the permanent land income fund created by W.S. 9-4-310(c)(v). No appropriation shall be made from either the miner's hospital account within the permanent land fund created by W.S. 9-4-310(a)(ix) or the miner's hospital income account within the permanent land fund created by W.S. 9-4-310(c)(v) to another account other than the miner's hospital board account created by this subsection. The money in the account shall be used to provide for the expenses of the board and its staff, as well as to implement the recommendations of the board.

(b) The board shall:

(i) Serve disabled or incapacitated miners in this state with emphasis on pulmonary/respiratory, hearing loss, cardiac and musculoskeletal conditions of miners due to labor in the mining industry;

(ii) Develop a plan to meet the miner's health care needs in this state. In recommending plans for meeting the miner's health care needs in this state, the board shall base its initial recommendations upon the report entitled "The Health Care Needs Assessment of Wyoming Miners," dated November 13, 2000 prepared by BBC Research and Consulting specifically dealing with both the medical and geographic findings, as well as phase II of the plan identifying alternative programs to address the needs identified in the plan. The plan shall be based upon the anticipated revenue to the account created by subsection (a) of this section;

(iii) Promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this act including eligibility for services for miners, establish administrative procedures for auditing and accountability;

(iv) Have authority to contract with service providers for the purposes of this act.

(c) Each biennium the board shall, after consultation with the legislative oversight committee created pursuant to W.S. 30-6-103, recommend expenditures of any monies in the account created by subsection (a) of this section for purposes of addressing miner's health issues based upon the plan prepared by the board under subsection (b) of this section. The recommendations shall be reviewed by the joint appropriations interim committee and any recommendations from the committee shall be included in the budget for appropriation. Any recommendations shall require legislative appropriation to become effective.

(d) Not later than December 1 of each year, the board shall report to the governor, the legislative oversight committee created pursuant to W.S. 30-6-103 and the joint appropriations interim committee on the activities of the board including any recommendations made for expenditure of monies from the account created by subsection (a) of this section to address miner's health issues in this state.

(e) As used in this section:

(i) "Coal or other mine" means an area of land from which minerals are extracted and processed in nonliquid form or, if in liquid form, through an in situ leach process;

(ii) "Miner" means a resident of Wyoming who has worked in a mine in this state or a contiguous state who is or was employed at a coal or other mine or at a processing or conversion facility contiguous to the mine and dependent upon the output of that mine as feedstock. "Miner" shall include the operator of the mine or plant if the operator works on a continuing or irregular basis;

(iii) "Mining" means coal mining, metal ore mining and nonmetallic mineral mining and quarrying. "Mining" includes coal, trona, bentonite, gypsum, sand and gravel and other stone and uranium mining.

30-6-103. Legislative oversight committee.

(a) There is created the state miner's hospital board legislative oversight committee consisting of:

- (i) Two (2) members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate, one (1) member from each political party;
 - (ii) Three (3) members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker, not more than two (2) of whom shall be from the same political party.
- (b) The committee shall include one (1) member from Campbell county and one (1) member from Sweetwater county.
- (c) The committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the board for the purposes of this act, and provide appropriate legislative recommendations. The committee shall counsel with and advise the board for the administration and performance of all the duties of the board pursuant to this act.
- (d) The committee created by this section shall cease to exist on July 1, 2004.

APPENDIX B

Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Forms



Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Benefit Registration Form

Group Number 0004443

ELIGIBILITY: An individual must be a current resident of the state of Wyoming for at least one year. He/She must also have, while living in Wyoming, twelve (12) consecutive months of service at a mine site in Wyoming or a contiguous state or have been injured while at work in a mine in Wyoming or a contiguous state and be unable to continue working as a miner due to that injury.

Miner Information

Name: _____ SS#: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

I am a resident of the State of Wyoming and have been since _____.

I was a resident of Wyoming at all Times while employed as listed below.

Employment Verification

(This section to be completed by Employer)

Employed from: _____ to: _____; and (if applicable)

(Must be at least twelve [12] consecutive months unless injured.)

Injured while at work and was determined to be unable to work as a miner due to that injury.

Company Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Type of Mine: (please circle one) Coal Trona Bentonite Sand & Gravel Uranium

Other: _____

Completed By: _____ Title: _____

Print

Print

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Authorization:

I authorize the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board to use the above information to register me. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury the above information is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MAIL TO:

EBMS, Inc.

P.O. Box 21367

Billings, MT 59104-1367

Toll Free (877) 240-2435

Fax (406) 652-5380

Access additional registration forms at www.EBMS.com

**Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board
Hearing Aid Assistance Program
Claim Form**

Group Number 0004463

Miner: This section to be completed by the Miner

Name: _____ SS#: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

I authorize release of any and all medical records related to the evaluation and purchase of a hearing aid through the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Hearing Aid Purchase Assistance Program to EBMS, Inc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PROVIDER INFORMATION & CLAIM FORM

This section to be completed BY THE AUDIOLOGIST OR HEARING AID SPECIALIST

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PROVIDERS & MINERS: WYOMING MINERS' HOSPITAL BOARD HEARING AID PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PAYS DIRECTLY TO THE PROVIDER & DOES NOT REIMBURSE THE MINER.

**I am an Audiologist or Hearing Aid Specialist. I evaluated the above named miner on _____
And my recommendation is as follows: (Please attach Audiogram)**

He/She is a candidate for a hearing aid/aids in the: _____ Right Ear _____ Left Ear _____ Binaural

Right Ear: _____

Make: _____ Model#: _____ Serial#: _____ Charge \$ _____

Left Ear: _____

Make: _____ Model#: _____ Serial#: _____ Charge \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

The Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Hearing Aid Purchase Assistance Program Benefit will be paid to:

Name: _____ License/Registration#: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

As the provider, I understand that should the hearing aid be returned within the 30-day money back guarantee period, I will refund the benefit to the program at the address below.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please send this Claim Form and direct questions to:

EBMS, Inc.
P.O. Box 21367
Billings, MT 59104-1367
Toll Free (877) 240-2435 • Fax (406) 652-5380