



The Environmental Challenge Program

...a competition for university students

THE TWEAK – 2009

November 3-6, Cle Elum, WA

“Sharpening our Environmental Focus in a Challenging Economy”

The Purpose

The Environmental Challenge gives student teams the opportunity to develop solutions to a mock environmental problem and have the experience of presenting their solution to a panel of environmental professionals. We do not give you a lot of numbers to crunch. We are more interested to hear about the issues involved, how you interpreted the problem, how you got to your conclusions, and how well you can communicate your thoughts. We want you to have fun! This exercise gives us all a chance to participate and gets the professionals of tomorrow to interact with the professionals of today.

The Tweak

Unanticipated Discovery at Old Mine Site #3

It is widely known that there are a significant amount of small cemeteries in and surrounding Clelyn. Many of these cemeteries are testaments to the dangers of coal mining and abundance of culture that once populated the area. Recently, Bigol Mining Co. was conducting preliminary assessments of the three mine sites and discovered unknown human remains at Old Mine Site #3. Specifically, the bodies were found under the waste rock pile. Initially, it was thought that it was related to an unsolved police investigation in the late 1970's but further exploration uncovered additional human remains. The final investigation yielded that site was a cemetery for the remains of coal workers who had perished in Foggy Day Disaster of 1903.

“The Foggy Day Disaster is a day that will never be forgotten in Clelyn and is one of the most unfortunate historic events in our town. Many descendants of the individuals affected by the disaster still live in Clelyn today. The families can now know the final resting place of their loved ones.”

W.Tewdew, Mayor of Clelyn

New Park in Clelyn? Van Slyke Off-Road Adventure Park

Clelyn has been identified as one of 4 spots in the United States that may be home of the new Van Slyke Off-Road Adventure Park. The new park would offer miles and miles of off-road mayhem and pure “get down and dirty” excitement! The conveyor of this information, who has remained anonymous, has stated that discussions with Bigol

Mining Company have been occurring to determine what it would take to acquire the abandoned mine sites. The source has stated that the year-round pleasure park will bring hundreds to the area and offer jobs to local citizens. It is not clear what Van Slyke's park would look like but many citizens and environmental groups are disgruntled based on Van Slyke's other ventures. Van Slyke's Petting Zoo, is similar in nature to Jurassic Park, a natural arena for mega fauna where you can "get up close and personal." It was a great idea, until the giant Panda got loose. Most of Van Slyke's entrepreneurial ventures have been shut down do to outrage in nearby communities and the damage to the local environment.

The Expectation

Detailed calculations are not the most important part of this challenge; logic train, process, conceptualizations, and creativity and **integration of the Tweak** are most important to the presentation composition. Logic of your vision and clarity in your presentation are critical. Remember you can come up with assumptions, but they will need to pass the "straight-face" test. This is like the real world!