

Office of the President
April 3, 1990

FCR 6

Members, Board of Trustees:

AUTHORIZATION TO EXPLORE COAL RESERVES

RECOMMENDATION: that the Administration be authorized to execute the appropriate documents to permit the University's consultant, Gaddy Engineering Company and ARCH Mineral Corporation to assess the coal reserves in the outlying tracts of the Robinson Forest, which are not the subject of the petition to declare lands unsuitable for surface coal mining filed with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet on February 26, 1990.

BACKGROUND: Following this Board's decision at its March 6 meeting to authorize the filing of a "Lands Unsuitable" petition covering the Clemmons Fork watershed, representatives of the University and ARCH Mineral Corporation have met on several occasions to discuss the possibility that the ARCH properties in that watershed could be exchanged for other University properties in areas where mining could be carried out without damage to University research efforts.

In the course of those discussions, and in discussions with Gaddy Engineering it has become apparent that additional data, including data only obtainable through core drilling, is needed to permit an adequate evaluation of the respective properties.

This action would permit explorations, including core drilling, to be conducted in non-sensitive areas owned by the University. It would not commit the University to an exchange of properties without reference back to the Trustees.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other

Date: April 3, 1990

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