



[Register for free](#) | [Login](#)

Activists angry over downstate coal mine reclamation

Associated Press May 25, 2013 12:20PM

Updated: May 25, 2013 6:06PM

MURDOCK, Ill.— Activists upset with the pace of reclamation at an eastern Illinois coal mine are pressing the Department of Natural Resources to block the site's owner from extending its reclamation permit for another five years.

The Murdock Mine hasn't operated for 25 years, and the law requires the site be returned to a natural state. But residents say that process has been too slow. The state has also taken up complaints accusing the owner, Alpena Vision Resources, of generating pollution in the process.

An environmental group called the Prairie Rivers Network wants to block Alpena's application for a permit extension. The activists cite questions over the company's compliance with reclamation standards as well as the pollution complaints.

Copyright 2013 Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

© 2011 Sun-Times Media, LLC. All rights reserved. This material may not be copied or distributed without permission. For more information about reprints and permissions, visit www.suntimesreprints.com. To order a reprint of this article, [click here](#).