

## Ohio Mining Company Wins 2011 National Award for Excellence in Surface Coal Mining

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sept. 6, 2011 – Oxford Resource Partners, LP (NYSE: OXF) (“Oxford”) today announced that it has been selected to receive an Excellence in Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Office of Surface Mining for its reclamation efforts at the Jockey Hollow Mine site in Harrison County, Ohio.

“The Oxford Mining Company’s innovative methods unique approach to mine land reclamation, including the Forestry Reclamation Approach, will result in mine land restoration that more naturally resembles pre-mining conditions,” said Chief Lanny Erdos, of the Division of Mineral Resources Management. “By planting native hardwood species, including the American chestnut, the company is providing natural habitat for wildlife, further enhancing the ecosystem.”

President and Chief Executive Officer Charles C. Ungurean commented, “We are honored to receive this prestigious award which is a testament to our commitment to environmental stewardship in our mining practices. As the leading producers of surface mined coal in Ohio, Oxford employees embrace their responsibility to be leaders in reclamation. I would like to congratulate them for their diligent efforts.”

Only a handful of companies in three states were recognized for exceeding reclamation requirements of the Surface Mining Reclamation and Control Act of 1977. Previous winners have developed reclamation techniques or coordinated reclamation projects resulting in outstanding local results.

Oxford Mining was one of two companies that received the National award, which goes to the companies exhibiting the best reclamation practices in the country.

The Jockey Hollow Mine site was reclaimed utilizing the Forestry Reclamation Approach as part of the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI). This approach utilizes non-traditional methods to establish a superior growth medium for hardwood forests. Approximately 185 acres have been reclaimed for use by the Ohio Division of Wildlife’s Jockey Hollow Wildlife Area. This area is scheduled to be open to the public this fall.

### **About Oxford Resource Partners, LP**

Oxford Resource Partners, LP is a low cost producer of high value steam coal in Northern Appalachia and the Illinois Basin. The Partnership markets its coal primarily to large electric utilities with coal-fired, base-load scrubbed power plants under long-term coal sales contracts. As of December 31, 2010, the Partnership controlled 93.5 million tons of proven and probable coal reserves, and it currently operates 22 active surface mines that are managed as eight mining complexes. The Partnership is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. For more information about Oxford Resource Partners, LP, please visit [www.oxfordresources.com](http://www.oxfordresources.com).

### **About The Ohio Department of Natural Resources**

The ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR Web site at [www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com).

