

Welcome to Module 1, Making Validity Determinations for Tunnel Sites. My name is Pete Sokolosky, geologist at the Wyoming State Office of the Bureau of Land Management. I've been a geologist for about twenty-six years with the BLM, and a certified mineral examiner for about twenty years. My first experience with a mineral patent application was an examination of a group of mill sites north of Vernal, Utah in the late 1980s, and I'm an instructor on the topic of tunnel sites and mill sites at the 3800-1 course of the BLM for many years. Now that you know who I am, let's take a look at our objective for this module. By the end of this module, each student should be able to, given a scenario involving validity determination for a tunnel site: 1) Identify the characteristics of the site, 2) Reference the applicable laws and regulations, and 3) Report the findings to management or a member of the public, the validity requirements in accordance with the General Mining Law, case law, and the 43 Code of Federal Regulations Part 3000. Now that you know what the objective is, let's take a look at what we will be covering in this module. In this module on tunnel sites we will cover the 1872 Mining Law, 43 Code of Federal Regulations, 3832.40 through 3832.45, Encountering Lodes, Abandoned Tunnels, and an exercise. Now that you know what we'll be covering, let's begin by taking a closer look at the 1872 Mining Law.