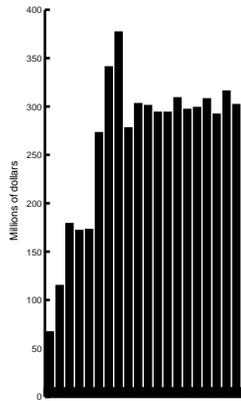


Office of Surface Mining

Budget and Appropriations



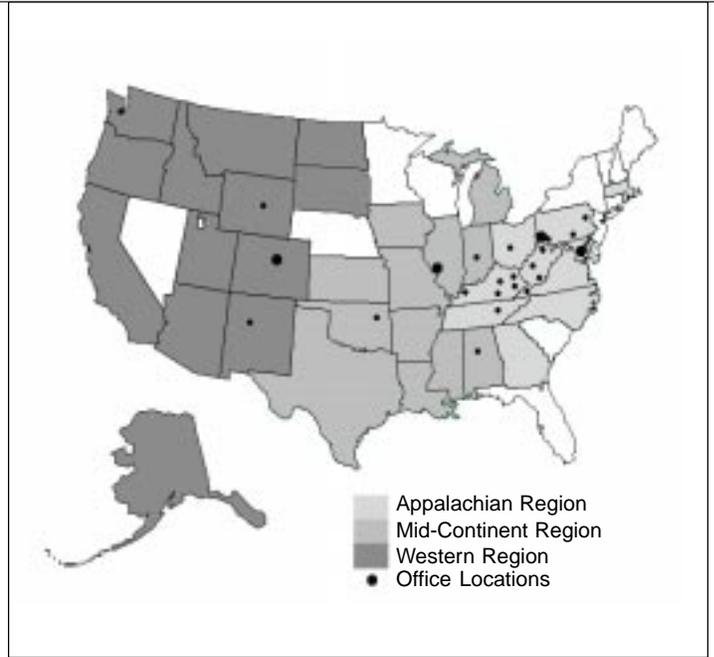
Office of Surface Mining
Budget 1978-1997

The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1997 (Public Law 104-208) appropriated \$94,172,000 from the General Fund for the Office of Surface Mining's regulatory and enforcement activities.

The 1997 Regulation and Technology appropriation included the following provisions:

Where the Office of Surface Mining is the regulatory authority, proceeds of performance bonds forfeited under Section 509 of the Surface Mining Law

can be used to reclaim lands where the mine operator did not meet all the requirements of the Law and the permit. In 1997, performance bond forfeiture revenue received totaled \$19,900, which



Appalachian Region
Mid-Continent Region
Western Region
● Office Locations

**TABLE 11
APPROPRIATIONS***

	1997	1996
Regulation & Technology		
State Regulatory Grants	\$50,676,000	\$50,762,000
Regulatory Program Operations	13,660,000	16,087,000
Tech. Services, Training & Research	13,881,000	11,597,000
Assessments & Collections	4,786,000	5,735,000
General Administration:	11,169,000	11,289,000
Executive Direction	[1,711,000]	[1,729,000]
Administrative Support	[3,860,000]	[3,962,000]
General Services	[5,598,000]	[5,598,000]
Subtotal:	94,172,000	95,470,000
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund		
State Reclamation Grants	142,000,000	140,000,000
Fee Compliance	5,562,000	6,000,000
Reclamation Program Operations	23,145,000	23,000,000
Small Operator Assistance Program	1,500,000	0
General Administration:	4,878,000	4,887,000
Executive Direction	[689,000]	[699,000]
Administrative Support	[1,704,000]	[1,703,000]
General Services	[2,485,000]	[2,485,000]
Subtotal:	177,085,000	173,887,000
Transfer to United Mine Workers Fund	31,373,799	47,183,764
Total	\$302,630,799	\$316,540,764

*The appropriation figures for both years include rescissions.

represents only one bond forfeiture.

Federal civil penalties and related interest collected under Section 518 of the Surface Mining Law can be used to reclaim coal mine lands abandoned after August 3, 1977. In 1997, a total of \$326,515 of civil penalties was collected. The Office of Surface Mining is only authorized to use the base penalty and interest of these collections, so \$265,722 was deposited into the Civil Penalty Fund for reclamation purposes. During 1997, \$512,860 from this fund was obligated for post-Surface Mining Law reclamation projects.

State regulatory program grants were funded at \$50,676,000, which was \$86,000 less than 1996. These grants are used to fund state regulatory program payroll and other operational costs.

In addition, \$177,085,000 was made available for obligation from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund (\$3,198,000 more than 1996), and up to 20 percent of the funds recovered from delinquent debts was authorized for contracting the collection of other delinquent debts. In 1997, the Office of Surface Mining spent \$456,537 to collect \$3.6 million in delinquent Abandoned Mine Land fees and delinquent audit bills. The Abandoned Mine Land appropriation included the following provisions:

■ State reclamation grants were funded at \$142,000,000, which was \$2,000,000 more than 1996.

■ Federal emergency program expenditures were limited to \$11,000,000, which was the same amount appropriated in 1996.

■ No more than 25 percent of total newly appropriated funds available for emergency reclamation projects could be used in any one state.

All appropriations provisions were met.