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	U·S· DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVES SYSTEM	Subject Number: REG-11 Transmittal Number: 354 Date: 06/15/87

Subject: Coordination of Permitting Activities with the Mine Safety and Health Administration

Approval: Jed D. Christensen **Title:** Director

1. Purpose. This directive outlines policy and procedures regarding coordination between the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) as required by the Federal regulations at 30 CFR Part 773.13(a)(3)(ii) and sections 503(a)(6) and 504(h) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. This document also provides guidance to OSMRE personnel involved in oversight evaluation of State programs concerning permit approval coordination with MSHA.

2. Definitions. None.

3. Policy/Procedures.

a. Background and General Policy. Under permanent program requirements, individual coal mine operators are required to submit a permit application to the Federal or State regulatory authority in order to obtain approval to operate a surface coal mining and reclamation or coal exploration operation. Included in permit applications and permanent program performance standards are certain proposed operation and reclamation plans that require the expert review and approval of MSHA in conjunction with OSMRE or State regulatory authorities concerned with the safety of mine workers and the protection of underground mines.

OSMRE, State regulatory authorities or permit applicants are required to obtain MSHA approval during the permit application review process as required by the Federal regulations listed in Attachment A and by State counterparts to the Federal regulations. This directive establishes procedures for the coordination of MSHA approvals for permit applications under a Federal regulatory program and OSMRE oversight evaluation of State program coordination with MSHA in the State program permitting process.

b. Procedures.

(1) Federal Program.

(a) Field Offices responsible for Federal program states should develop a working agreement with the local MSHA office District Manager to provide for the required MSHA review and approval of proposed operation and reclamation plans listed in Attachment A.

5. References.

a. 30 CFR Parts 77, 773, 780, 784, 816 and 817
b. Directive SFP--2, Planning and Management of Special Studies
c. Directive REG-8, Oversight of State Programs - Annual Evaluations

6. Effect on Other Documents. Supersedes memorandum dated July 27, 1984, from the Assistant Director, Program Operations and Inspection to Field Office Directors concerning MSHA coordination.

7. Effective Date. Upon issuance.

8. Contact. Chief, Division of Regulatory Programs, 202-343-5351.

Attachment A

Plans Requiring MSHA Approval

	Description	30 CFR Citation
1.	Blasting operations within 500 feet of an active underground mine.	780.13(c) and 816.61(d)(1)(ii)
2.	Impounding structure which impounds water, sediment, or slurry to an elevation of 20 feet or more, or having a storage volume of 20 acre-feet or more with an embankment elevation of five feet or more.	780.25; 784.16; 816.49(a)(1); 817.49(a)(1); (See also 30 CFR 77.216).
3.	Underground disposal of coal mine waste, coal processing waste, and excess spoil in underground mine workings.	816.81(f); 817.81(f); 784.25(a); 816.71(j); 817.71(j).
4.	Discharges into an underground mine.	816.41(i) and 817.41(h)(ii).
5.	Surface mining activities within the proposed permit area to be conducted within 500 feet of an active underground mine.	780.27 and 816.79(b).
6.	Plans for extinguishing coal mine waste fires and utilization of burned waste.	816.87(a) and 817.87(a).

Attachment B

Mine Safety and Health Adminstration
District Manager Address List

District	Mailing Address	FTS	Commercial
1	Penn Place, 20 N. Penn. Ave. Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701	592-6321	717/826-6321
2	4800 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213	721-8363/ -8369	412/621-4500 Ext. 363
3	5012 Mountaineer Mall, Morgantown, WV 26505	923-4277	304/291-4277
4	P.O. Box 112, Mount Hope, WV 25880	930-5236	304/877-6405
5	P.O. Box 560 Norton, VA 24273	NO FTS	703/679-0230
6	219 Ratcliff's Creek Road P.O. Box 3249 Pikeville, KY 41501-3249	NO FTS	606/432-0944
7	P.O. Box 572, Barbourville, KY 40906	NO FTS	606/546-5123
8	P.O. Box 418 Vicennes, IN 47591	331-8131/ 32/33	812/882-7617 19/ 22
9	P.O. Box 25367, Denver, CO 80225-0367	776-2740	303/236-2740
10	P.O. Box 473, Madisonville, KY 42431	NO FTS	502/821-4180

Footnote: Contact should be initiated with the nearest MSHA office. Not all District Offices review all types of operation and reclamation plans.