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Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Names New Regional Director for OSMRE's Western Region

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Director Joseph Pizarchik today announced the selection of a new Regional Director for the Western Region of the [Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement](http://www.osmre.gov) (OSMRE).

David Berry will join OSMRE as the Regional Director of the bureau's Western Regional Office in March 2015. Mr. Berry currently serves as the Director of the Colorado Coal Mine Regulatory Program, where he is responsible for ensuring the state's compliance with its regulatory program, which implements the Federal requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). Mr. Berry previously directed the Colorado Minerals Mine Regulatory Program.

"I am very pleased to add David Berry to our professional team at OSMRE," said [Director Pizarchik](#). "David has carried out several key responsibilities for assuring Colorado's compliance not only with its regulatory program, but also coordinating with its abandoned mine land program, its grants management program, and policy development, all of which prepares him well for this critical position."

Berry has 30 years of experience as a state regulator, including an extensive background in all aspects of the surface coal mining regulatory program. He held lead responsibility for implementation of the surface mining laws, including mining regulation, reclamation, technology, NEPA issues, and the Federal/state relationships for more than sixteen years.

Berry also represented Colorado and the western states' regulatory program interests through the Western Interstate Energy Board and the Interstate Mining Compact Commission, organizations which work with the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to address program and oversight issues.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement carries out the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 in cooperation with states and tribes. OSM's objectives are to ensure that coal mining activities are conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, to ensure that the land is restored to beneficial use after mining, and to mitigate the effects of past mining by aggressively pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mines.

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