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TOPIC: SMALL OPERATOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SOAP)

INQUIRY: What contracting procedures does each state utilize in its Small Operator Assistance Program (SOAP)? How many applications for assistance were approved in fiscal year 1983-84 and what was the average cost for each permit? Please include a copy of each state's SOAP regulations.

SEARCH RESULTS: A survey was conducted of the fifteen IMCC member states which have coal mining regulatory programs. Each state's contracting procedures, number of approved applications, and average cost of SOAP permits was requested. In addition, a COALEX search was conducted to identify the pertinent state regulations (see attachments).

Mr. Wayne Cripp, Geologist II of the Louisiana Injection and Mining Division, reported that Louisiana had no SOAP regulations and has not received any requests for SOAP assistance. Arkansas and Texas have SOAP regulations, but both reported that no applications for assistance have been received to date.

ATTACHMENTS

C. Arkansas Surface Coal Mining & Reclamation Code, Sec. 795 (1980).
D. Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Bd. Regs., Sec. 2.09 (1982).
F. 310 Indiana Admin. Code Sec. 12-3-129 (1982).
L. Mississippi Surface Coal Mining & Reclamation Regs., Sec. 195 (1980).
O. New Mexico Surface Coal Mining Regs., Sec. 32 (1983).
S. Texas Surface Coal Mining Regs., Sec. 051.07.04.234 (1980).
U. West Virginia Surface Mining Reclamation Regs., Sec. 11A.01 (1983).