



June 12, 2013

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Announces Final Amount Available for Abandoned Mine Land Payments to States and Tribes

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) announced today final calculations of Abandoned Mine Land (AML) grant funding available to states and tribes. Reflecting the automatic, across-the-board spending cuts that took effect earlier this year, the total amount available — \$322.1 million — represents a 5.1 percent reduction from the \$339.4 million in AML funding that would have gone to 28 state and tribal governments to reclaim abandoned mine lands in their respective jurisdictions. In February, OSM distributed 90 percent of the total grant funding available as a conservative estimate of the impact of the Federal budget sequester that took place on March 1, 2013.

OSM is now making available the remaining funds, resulting in an overall 5.1 percent reduction, in accordance with the Budget Control Act of 2011. The total amount available for states and tribes to eliminate environmental hazards caused by past coal mining is:

<u>State/Tribe</u>	<u>Final Distribution</u>	<u>Amount Sequestered</u>
Alabama	\$8,618,525	\$463,167
Alaska	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Arkansas	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Colorado	\$8,202,702	\$440,820
Illinois	\$22,663,805	\$1,217,971
Indiana	\$15,116,220	\$812,358
Iowa	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Kansas	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Kentucky	\$42,428,406	\$2,280,136
Louisiana	\$401,233	\$21,562
Maryland	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Mississippi	\$259,783	\$13,959
Missouri	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Montana	\$12,378,787	\$665,245
New Mexico	\$5,081,655	\$273,092
North Dakota	\$3,713,470	\$199,564
Ohio	\$15,228,741	\$818,405
Oklahoma	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Pennsylvania	\$61,735,153	\$3,317,695





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Tennessee	\$2,847,000	\$153,000
Texas	\$5,002,411	\$268,834
Utah	\$4,570,659	\$245,631
Virginia	\$10,371,716	\$557,384
West Virginia	\$59,552,893	\$3,200,419
Wyoming	\$14,235,000	\$765,000
Crow Tribe	\$1,723,440	\$92,619
Hopi Tribe	\$1,251,477	\$67,256
Navajo Nation	\$6,822,158	\$366,628
National Total	\$322,134,234	\$17,311,745

States and tribes receive their allocations according to a congressionally mandated formula established by SMCRA. All state and tribal distributions were reduced using the same method. The distribution was calculated by applying the required sequester reduction to the AML distribution formula, and included a reduction of a state or tribe's share, based on its individual contributions. These contributions include AML fee collections of state or tribal share, historic coal percentage and the Secretary's share, and their specific prior balance replacement fund payment and in-lieu amount.

OSM administers the annual grants in accordance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA), which requires the bureau to make AML funding available to eligible states and tribes. AML grants are funded in part by a per-ton reclamation fee levied on all coal produced in the United States. Additional funding comes from the U.S. Treasury. OSM provides AML grants to eligible states and tribes to address environmental damage caused by mining conducted prior to the passage of SMCRA. Examples of reclamation projects include closing dangerous mine shafts, reclaiming unstable slopes, improving water quality by treating acid mine drainage, and restoring water supplies damaged by mining, among other things.

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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. For instant updates on OSM, follow OSM on Twitter at www.twitter.com/OSMRE or visit the OSM home page at www.osmre.gov.

