### **FEDERAL REGISTER: 47 FR 33683 (August 4, 1982)**

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM)

30 CFR Parts 700, 705, 707, 710, 715, 716, 717, 718, 720, 771, 776, 778, 779, 780, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 788, 816, 817, 822, 826

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; Initial and Permanent Regulatory Program; Information Collection

ACTION: Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) is amending its interim and permanent program regulation by publishing the approval of information collection and reporting requirements as rules rather than "notes." The amendment will remove the "Note:" paragraph currently at the beginning of each Part in those Subchapters that identifies the approval of information collection and reporting requirements and will add a new Section to each of those Parts to replace the "notes." The amendment will also include summary information describing those requirements and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval numbers. This is being done to conform with the requirements of OMB for agencies to codify those clearances as part of its rules rather than as "notes."

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 4, 1982.

ADDRESSES: Any questions pertaining to this amendment should be directed to: Bernadine Thompson, Chief, Regulatory and Issues Management Office, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 343-5241.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Prior to the effective date of the Federal Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the General Accounting Office (GAO) was the approval authority for information collection and reporting requirements established in the regulations promulgated by OSM under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.). GAO approved those requirements and that approval was codified by OSM as "notes" in the Parts of 30 CFR Chapter VII that establish the requirements. After enactment of the Federal Paperwork Reduction Act (April 1, 1981) the GAO approvals were transferred to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and reassigned OMB approval numbers. OMB requires that the approvals be codified within the structure of the rules rather than as "notes." This amendment does not establish any new information collection and reporting requirements or codify any new approvals of requirements but simply places the existing approvals within the structure of the rules.

This amendment contains the clearance numbers established by OMB to incorporate the previous GAO approvals into the OMB clearance system. In addition, this amendment contains summary information in the Parts which was developed for obtaining GAO approval of the requirements and is also contained in the Annual Information Collection Budget which is on file with OSM and OMB.

This amendment does not include the approvals for information collection and recordkeeping requirements found in Subchapters C, D, F, J, L, and R or Part 725 of Subchapter B and Part 795 of Subchapter G of 30 CFR Chapter VII. Approvals of requirements established in those Subchapters and Parts will be published as rules rather than notes when revisions to those Subchapters and Parts are promulgated in the next few months. OSM has proposed revisions to rules in Subchapters A, B, G, and K in several different rulemaking actions. If those revisions change information collection and reporting requirements, those changes will be reflected in amendatory and regulatory language contained in the applicable rulemakings.

It has been determined that the information collection requirements of 30 CFR Parts 700, 707, 710, 718, and 720 have fewer than 10 respondents per year, and therefore and exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and do not require clearance by OMB.

OSM has determined that a notice of proposed rulemaking was not required pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b). OSM has determined that this document is not a major rule and does not require a regulatory impact analysis under Executive Order 12291 because the rule is procedural and has no economic effect on the public. The Department has also determined that the rule will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities and does not require a flexibility analysis under the Regulatory Flexibility Act. This rulemaking qualifies as a Categorical Exemption under Appendix 1, Chapter 2, Part 516 of the Departmental Manual; thus no environmental assessment has been conducted under the National Environmental Policy Act.

### LIST OF SUBJECTS IN

30 CFR Parts 700, 705, 707, 710, 715, 716, 717, 718, 720, 771, 776, 778, 779, 780, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 788, 816, 817, 822, and 826

Administrative practice and procedure, Coal mining, Surface mining, Underground mining, Reporting requirements, Conflict of interests, Highways and roads, Law enforcement, Public health, Safety, Environmental protection, Intergovernmental relations.

Accordingly 30 CFR Parts 700, 705, 707, 710, 715, 716, 717, 718, 720, 771, 776, 778, 779, 780, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 788, 816, 817, and 826 are amended as set forth below:

Dated: July 29, 1982.

Daniel N. Miller, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Energy and Minerals.

### PART 700 -- GENERAL

- 1. Part 700 is amended by removing the "NOTE:" paragraph following the source note.
- 2. Section 700.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 700.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

Since the information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 700.12(b) and 700.13 have fewer than 10 respondents per year, they are exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and do not require clearance by OMB.

### PART 705 -- RESTRICTION ON FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF STATE EMPLOYEES

- 3. Part 705 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 4. Section 705.10 is added as follows:

# **SECTION 705.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirement contained in 30 CFR 705.11 has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0067. The information is being collected on Form OSM 23 to meet the requirement of Section 507(g) of Pub. L. 95-87, which provides that no employee of the State regulatory authority shall have a direct or indirect financial interest in any underground or surface coal mining operation. This information will be used by officials of the State regulatory agency to determine whether each State employee complies with the financial interest provisions of Pub. L. 95-87. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 707 -- EXEMPTION FOR COAL EXTRACTION INCIDENT TO GOVERNMENT-FINANCED HIGHWAY OR OTHER CONSTRUCTION

- 5. Part 707 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 6. Section 707.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 707.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

Since the information collection requirement contained in 30 CFR 707.12 has fewer than 10 respondents per year, it is exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and does not require clearance by OMB.

### PART 710 -- INITIAL REGULATORY PROGRAM

- 7. Part 710 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 8. Section 710.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 710.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

Since the information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 710.4(b); 710.11(d)(2)(ii); 710.12(e) have fewer than 10 respondents per year, they are exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and do not require clearance by OMB.

# PART 715 -- GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- 9. Part 715 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 10. Section 715.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 715.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 715.13(d); 715.17 (b)(1)(v) and (j)(3); 715.18(b) (2) and (6); and 715.19 (b), (c), (d) and (e)(4) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0007. The information is being collected to meet the performance standards in Section 515(b)(2) of P.L. 95-87 and are applicable during the initial regulatory program. This information will be used by OSM in measuring compliance with the performance standards until permanent programs are in effect in the States. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

### PART 716 -- SPECIAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

11. Part 716 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.

12. Section 716.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 716.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 716.7 (c), (d) and (e) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0008. The information is being collected to implement Section 510(d)(1) of Pub. L. 95-87 which authorizes mining on prime farmlands if the proposed permittee has the technological capability of restoring the land after mining and can meet certain soil reconstruction requirements. This information will be used by OSM to enforce the requirements of Pub. L. 95-87 mentioned above during the initial regulatory program. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

### PART 717 -- UNDERGROUND MINING GENERAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- 13. Part 717 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 14. Section 717.10 is added as follows:

#### SECTION 717.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 717.17 (b) and 717.18(b) (2) and (6) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0009. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Sections 515(b) (10) and (13) of Pub. L. 95-87. This information will be used to ensure compliance with statutory performance standards for the construction and operation of dams composed of waste materials and to minimize disturbance to the quality and quantity of surface water systems during the initial regulatory program. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 718 -- ADOPTION OF STATE STANDARDS

- 15. Part 718 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 16. Section 718.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 718.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

Since the information collection requirement contained in 30 CFR 718.1(b) has fewer than 10 respondents per year, it is exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and does not require clearance by OMB.

### PART 720 -- STATE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- 17. Part 720 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 18. Section 720.10 is added as follows:

# SECTION 720.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirement contained in 30 CFR 720.13 has fewer than 10 respondents per year, it is exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) and does not require clearance by OMB.

### PART 771 -- GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMITS AND PERMIT APPLICATIONS

- 19. Part 771 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 20. Section 771.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 771.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 771.15(c), 771.21(a)(1), 771.21(b)(2) and (3) and 771.23 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0032. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Sections 504(f), 505 and 510(b) of Pub. L. 95-87. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to aid him or her in assessing whether the performance standards of a regulatory program will be complied with during the proposed mining operation during the permanent regulatory program. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 776 -- GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COAL EXPLORATION

- 21. Part 776 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 22. Section 776.10 is added as follows:

#### SECTION 776.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 776.11 and 776.12 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0033. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Section 512(a) of Pub. L. 95-87, which provides that coal exploration operations which substantially disturb the natural land surface be conducted in accordance with exploration regulations. This information will be used to give the regulatory authority a sufficient baseline upon which to assess the impact of the proposed operation during the permanent regulatory program. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 778 -- SURFACE MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR LEGAL, FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE, AND RELATED INFORMATION

- 23. Part 778 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 24. Section 778.10 is added as follows:

# **SECTION 778.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 778.13, 778.14, 778.15, 778.16, 778.17, 778.18, 778.19, 778.20 and 778.21 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under *44 U.S.C. 3507* and assigned clearance number 1029-0034. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Section 507(b) of Pub. L. 95-87, which requires that persons conducting surface mining activities submit to the regulatory authority all relevant information regarding ownership and control of the property to be affected by the activities, compliance status and history. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to ensure all legal, financial and compliance requirements are satisfied prior to issuance or denial of a permit during the permanent regulatory program. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 779 -- SURFACE MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

- 25. Part 779 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 26. Section 779.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 779.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 779.11, 779.12, 779.13, 779.14, 779.15, 779.16, 779.17, 779.18, 779.19, 779.20, 779.21, 779.22, 779.24, 779.25 and 779.27 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under *44 U.S.C. 3507* and assigned clearance number 1029-0035. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Sections 507 and 508 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require the applicant to present an adequate description of the existing pre-mining environmental resources within and around the proposed mine plan area. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to determine whether the applicant can comply with the performance standards of the regulations for surface coal mining and whether reclamation of these areas is feasible. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 780 -- SURFACE MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR RECLAMATION AND OPERATIONS PLAN

- 27. Part 780 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 28. Section 780.10 is added as follows:

# **SECTION 780.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 780.11, 780.12, 780.13, 780.14, 780.15, 780.16, 780.18, 780.21, 780.23, 780.25, 780.27, 780.31, 780.33, 780.35 and 780.37 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0036. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Sections 507(b), 508(a) and 515(b) of Pub. L. 95-87. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in determining whether the applicant can comply with the performance standards of the regulations for surface coal mining and whether reclamation of these areas is feasible. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 782 -- UNDERGROUND MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR LEGAL, FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND RELATED INFORMATION

- 29. Part 782 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 30. Section 782.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 782.10 INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 782.13, 782.14, 782.15, 782.16, 782.17, 782.18, 782.19, 782.20 and 782.21 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under *44 U.S.C. 3507* and assigned clearance number 1029-0037. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Section 507(b) of Pub. L. 95-87, which provides that persons conducting underground mining activities submit to the regulatory authority all relevant information regarding ownership and control of the property to be affected by the activities, compliance status and history. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to determine that all legal, financial and compliance requirements are satisfied prior to issuance or denial of the permit. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 783 -- UNDERGROUND MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

- 31. Part 783 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 32. Section 783.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 783.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 783.11, 783.12, 783.13, 783.14, 783.15, 783.16, 783.17, 783.18, 783.19, 783.20, 783.21, 783.22, 783.23, 783.24 and 783.25 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0038. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of sections 507 and 508 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require the permit applicant to present an adequate description of the existing pre-mining environmental resources within and around the proposed mine plan area. This information will be used by the regulatory authority to determine whether the applicant can comply with the performance standards for underground mining. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 784 -- UNDERGROUND MINING PERMIT APPLICATIONS -- MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR RECLAMATION AND OPERATION PLAN

- 33. Part 784 is amended by removing the "NOTE:" paragraph following the source note.
- 34. Section 784.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 784.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 784.11, 784.12, 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25 and 784.26 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under *44 U.S.C. 3507* and assigned clearance number 1029-0039. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of sections 507(b), 508(a) and 516(b) of Pub. L. 95-87, which require applicants for underground mine permits to provide a description of each existing structure proposed to be used in the mining or reclamation operation and a compliance plan for structures proposed to be modified or constructed for use in the operation. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in determining if the applicant can comply with the performance standards for underground mining. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 785 -- REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMITS FOR SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF MINING

- 35. Part 785 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 36. Section 785.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 785.10- INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 785.13(e), (f), (g) and (h), 785.14, 785.15, 785.16, 785.17(b), 785.18(c), 785.19, 785.20, 785.21, and 785.22 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0040. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of sections 711 and 515 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require applicants for special types of mining activities to provide a descriptions, maps and plans of the proposed activity. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in determining if the applicant can meet the applicable performance and environmental standards for the special type of mining activities. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 786 -- REVIEW, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, AND APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS AND PERMIT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 37. Part 786 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 38. Section 786.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 786.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 786.11 (a), (b), (c) and (d), 786.14(b), 786.15, 786.17(c), 786.19, 786.21, 786.23 (c) and (d) and 786.25(b) (2) and (4) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0041. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Sections 510 and 513 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require procedures for the review of public participation and approval or disapproval of the permit applications. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in evaluating the permit applications and in approving or disapproving the permit applications. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 788 -- PERMIT REVIEWS, REVISIONS, AND RENEWALS AND TRANSFER, SALE AND ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS GRANTED UNDER PERMITS

- 39. Part 788 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 40. Section 788.10 is added as follows:

# SECTION 788.10 INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 788.14 and 788.18 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0042. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of sections 506, 511 and 513 of Pub. L. 95-87, which require provisions for revisions, renewals, transfers, sales and assignment of rights of the permit applicant. This information will be used by the regulatory authority when conducting the review process and provides the criteria by which a determination is made to approve such applications. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 816 -- PERMANENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS -- SURFACE MINING ACTIVITIES

- 41. Part 816 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 42. Section 816.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 816.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 816.46(c)(4), 816.46(r), 816.46(t), 816.49(h), 816.49(i), 816.52(a), 816.52(b)(1) (ii) and (iii), 816.53(a), 816.62, 816.64, 816.65(a)(2)(iii), 816.67, 816.68, 816.71(j), 816.82(a)(4), 816.82(b), 816.87, 816.91(b), 816.95, 816.116, 816.117(b)(4), 816.117(c) (1) and (3), 816.131(b), 816.133(c) (1) thru (4), 816.133(c) (8) and (9), 816.150(d)(1), 816.152(d)(13), 816.160(d)(1) and 816.163(d) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under *44 U.S.C. 3507* and assigned clearance number 1029-0047. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of section 515 of Pub. L. 95-87, which provides that permittees conducting surface coal mining operations shall meet applicable performance standards of the Act. This

information will be used by the regulatory authority in monitoring and inspecting surface mining activities. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 817 -- PERMANENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS -- UNDERGROUND MINING ACTIVITIES

- 43. Part 817 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 44. Section 817.10 is added as follows:

### SECTION 817.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 817.46(c)(4), 817.46(r), 817.46(t), 817.49(h), 817.49(i), 817.52(a), 817.52(b)(1)(ii) and (iii), 817.53(a), 817.62, 817.65(b)(2)(iii), 817.67, 817.68, 817.71(j), 817.82(a)(4), 817.82(b), 817.87, 817.91(b), 817.95, 817.116, 817.117(b)(4), 817.117(c)(1) and (3), 817.131(b), 817.133(c)(1) thru (4), 817.133(c)(8) and (9), 817.150(d)(1), 817.152(d)(13), 817.160(d)(1) and 817.163(d) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0048. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of section 516 of Pub. L. 95-87, which provides that permittees conducting underground coal mining operations shall meet the applicable performance standards of the Act. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in monitoring and inspecting underground mining activities. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 822 -- SPECIAL PERMANENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS -- OPERATIONS IN ALLUVIAL VALLEY FLOORS

- 45. Part 822 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 46. Section 822.10 is added as follows:

### **SECTION 822.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirements contained in 30 CFR 822.14(a) and (d) have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0049. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Section 515(b) of Pub. L. 95-87, which ensures the protection of alluvial valley floors. This information will be used by the regulatory authority in monitoring and analyzing the environmental system of alluvial valley floors. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

# PART 826 -- SPECIAL PERMANENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS -- OPERATIONS ON STEEP SLOPES

- 47. Part 826 is amended by removing the "Note:" paragraph following the source note.
- 48. Section 826.10 is added as follows:

# **SECTION 826.10 - INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

The information collection requirement contained in 30 CFR 826.12(b) has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1029-0050. The information is being collected to meet the requirements of Section 515(d) of Pub. L. 95-87, which ensures that there is adequate environmental protection during surface coal mining and reclamation operations on steep slopes. This information will be

used by the regulatory authority in analyzing the static factor of safety for the stability of all portions of the reclaimed land. The obligation to respond is mandatory.

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