

## Eligible Voters

*One ballot accepted from each of the following or their designee:*

AML Manager, Virginia Division of Mined Land Reclamation  
AML Program Manager, New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division  
AML Program Coordinator, Alaska Division of Mining  
AML Program Specialist OSM  
Assistant-Director- Restoration, Indiana Division of Reclamation  
Chief, Alton Field Division OSM  
Chief, Denver Field Office OSM  
Chief, Federal Reclamation Program Division OSM  
Chief, Pittsburgh Field Division OSM  
Chief, Missouri AML Section Land Reclamation Program  
Chief, Montana Abandoned Mine Reclamation Bureau  
Chief, West Virginia Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation  
Chief, Surface Mining and Reclamation Division AR  
Chief, Utah Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program  
Director, Alabama Mining and Reclamation Division  
Director, Birmingham Field Office OSM  
Director, Casper Field Office, OSM  
Director, Charleston Field Office OSM  
Director, Colorado Office of Active and Inactive Mines  
Director, Crow Tribe AML Program  
Director, Injection and Mining Division, DNR, LA  
Director, Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands  
Director, Knoxville Field Office OSM  
Director, Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Department  
Director, North Dakota AML Division  
Director, Oklahoma AML Program  
Director, Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation  
Director, Texas Surface Mining and Reclamation Division  
Director, Tulsa Field Office OSM(Acting)  
Director, Wyoming Field Office (OSM)  
Environmental Specialist, Pittsburgh Field Division, OSM  
Environmental Specialist –Senior, Division of Soil Conservation IA  
Manager, Hopi Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Program  
Manager, Illinois Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Division  
Manager, Olympia Office OSM  
Mining Section Chief, Kansas Surface Mining Section  
Natural Resources Administrator, Ohio Division of Mines and Reclamation  
Regional Director, Appalachian Region OSM  
Regional Director(Acting) Mid Continent Region OSM  
Regional Director, Western Region OSM  
Supervisor, Maryland Abandoned Mine Lands Section  
Team Leader, OSM Anthracite Team  
Team Leader, OSM Appalachia Team

Ties will be decided by a team of seven judges from OSM and States.

## Organizations Eligible to Submit Nominations

Alabama State Programs Division  
Alaska Division of Mining  
Arkansas Dept. Of Pollution Control and Ecology  
Colorado Office of Active and Inactive Mines  
Crow Tribe AML Program  
Hopi Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Program  
Illinois Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Division  
Indiana Division of Reclamation  
Iowa AML Program  
Kansas Surface Mining Section  
Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands  
Louisiana Injection and Mining Division  
Maryland Abandoned Mine Lands Section  
Missouri AML Section Land Reclamation Program  
Montana Abandoned Mine Reclamation Bureau  
Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Department  
New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division  
North Dakota AML Division  
Ohio Division of Mines and Reclamation  
Oklahoma AML Program  
Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation  
Texas Surface Mining and Reclamation Division  
Utah Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program  
Virginia Division of Mine Land Reclamation  
West Virginia Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation  
Wyoming AML Program



## Nominations Due March 15, 2008

For further information, contact:

**Tom Geoghegan**

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Office of Communications  
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Washington, D.C. 20240.  
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# 2008

## Abandoned Mine Reclamation Awards



*Call for nominations*

*US Office of Surface Mining*



## *Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Awards*

### *History and objectives of the program*

The Surface Mining Law was enacted to ensure that mined for coal would be restored to beneficial use as part of the mining process, and that lands abandoned without reclamation prior to the law would be reclaimed as well.

Today, abandoned mine land reclamation funded under the Surface Mining Law has eliminated thousands of dangerous health, safety and environmental problems resulting from abandoned mine lands throughout the country.

Abandoned mines can harm the environment and endanger the lives and health of those living in the coal fields. Eliminating these problems through reclamation requires specialized skills, innovation thinking and dedication.

To give well-earned public recognition to those responsible for the nation's most outstanding achievements in abandoned mine land reclamation the Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining began the annual Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Awards Program in 1992. The Program publicly recognizes outstanding abandoned mine land reclamation and publicizes exemplary reclamation techniques.

### *What Projects are eligible for an award?*

Abandoned Mine land projects funded wholly or in part by the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and completed by approved state or tribal programs are eligible for an award.

This includes all coal, non-coal, high-priority and emergency projects. Abandoned mine reclamation completed by citizen groups or other non-state/non-tribal organizations are not eligible for these awards. One project may be submitted by each state or tribal program each year.

There are five awards for 2008: one national award, one national award for small projects and one award in each of OSM's three regions. Any entry is eligible for the national award.



## Required Information and Format

### **A. A text-only cover sheet containing:**

1. Name and location of the nominated reclamation project;
2. Name, address, phone numbers and email addresses of those submitting the nomination;
3. Project start and completion dates and construction costs;
4. Name of organizations responsible for the reclamation, including contractors; and
5. Date submitted.

### **B. A narrative description of the work that resulted in exemplary abandoned mine land reclamation.**

The narrative should not exceed six single-spaced pages; it should fully describe the abandoned mine problem, including background and reclamation techniques used. The text should also contain photo captions and references to maps, diagrams, or other graphics.

### **C. Color photographs (including maps, diagrams, or graphics).**

The photos should show both the specific activity and the suffounding conditions. They should provide a clear understanding of the reclamation accomplishments.

### **D. Format.**

Each nomination package must be submitted in electronic format. Packages will be posted on the web in Adobe Acrobat format; they may be submitted as one file in Acrobat (containing text and photos), or as a Word format file containing text and separate files containing photographs (or graphics) in jpg format. All nominations must include the cover photo in jpg format in a separate file.

Because packages will be downloaded by many people with slow computer connections it is important to keep the file size as small as possible. Photos should be no larger than 400 pixels on the largest dimension and be at screen resolution (72 dpi).

## Judging Standards

Judging standards for the 2008 awards are as follows:

- 1. Clarity and Completeness of Nomination Package (5pts.)**
- 2. Difficulty of Achieving Reclamation under Existing Conditions (20pts.)**
  - a. Special and Unique Considerations (10 Points)
  - b. On-Site Difficulty of the Project (10 Points)
  - c. Project start and completion dates and construction costs;
- 4. Name of organizations responsible for the reclamation, including contractors; and**
- 5. Date submitted.**
- 3. On-Site Effectiveness (30pts.)**
  - a. Effective/Innovative use of Technology (8)
  - b. Landscape Conforms to the Natural Environment (8)
  - c. Elimination of Significant Health and Safety Problem (14)
- 4. Funding**
  - a. Effective use of Funds (6)
  - b. Leveraging – use of partners for funding or technology (6)
- 5. Benefits to the Community (15points.)**
  - a. Community Support for the Project (5)
  - b. Long Term Benefits to the Community (10))
- 6. Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (18 Points)**
  - a. Exceeds the Spirit and Intent of SMCRA (10points)
  - b. Increased public awareness of SMCRA (4points)
  - c. Transferability to other AML projects (4 points)



## Nominations Due March 15, 2008

State and tribal Abandoned Mine Land Programs must provide nominations directly to the Office of Surface Mining Headquarters in Washington, D.C. by March 15, 2008. Nominations and questions about the awards should be emailed to [tgeoghegan@osmre.gov](mailto:tgeoghegan@osmre.gov)