

Eligible Voters

(one ballot accepted from each of the following):

Administrator, Alabama State Programs Division
AML Program Coordinator, Alaska Division of Mining
Director, Albuquerque Field Office (Albuquerque, New Mexico)
Regional Director, Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center
Team Leader, OSM Appalachia Team (Ashland, Kentucky)
Director, Arkansas Dept. Of Pollution Control and Ecology
Director, Big Stone Gap Field Office (Big Stone Gap, Virginia)
Director, Birmingham Field Office (Birmingham, Alabama)
Director, Casper Field Office (Casper, Wyoming)
Director, Charleston Field Office (Charleston, West Virginia)
Director, Colorado Office of Active and Inactive Mines
Manager, OSM Columbus Team (Columbus, Ohio)
Director, Crow Tribe AML Program
Director, Harrisburg Field Office (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania)
Manager, Hopi Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Program
Manager, Illinois Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Division
Assistant-Director- Restoration, Indiana Division of Reclamation
Director, Indianapolis Field Office (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Chief, Iowa AML Coordinator
Mining Section Chief, Kansas Surface Mining Section
Director, Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands
Director, Knoxville Field Office (Knoxville, Tennessee)
Director, Lexington Field Office (Lexington, Kentucky)
Director, Louisiana Injection and Mining Division
Supervisor, Maryland Abandoned Mine Lands Section
Regional Director, Mid-Continent Regional
Coordinating Center (Alton, Illinois)
Chief, Missouri AML Section Land Reclamation Program
Chief, Montana Abandoned Mine Reclamation Bureau
Director, Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Department
AML Program Manager, New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
Director, North Dakota AML Division
Natural Resources Administrator, Ohio Division of Mines and Reclamation
Director, Oklahoma AML Program
Manager, OSM Olympia Office (Olympia, Washington)
Director, Pennsylvania Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Team Leader, OSM Anthracite Team (Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania)
Director, Texas Surface Mining and Reclamation Division
Director, Tulsa Field Office
Chief, Utah Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program
AML Manager, Virginia Division of Mine Land Reclamation
Regional Director, Western Regional Coordinating Center (Denver, Colorado)
Chief, West Virginia Office of Abandoned Mine Lands and Reclamation
Administrator, Wyoming AML Program

After ballots are received from the eligible voters a team of seven judges from OSM and state programs will determine the winners.

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 31, 2007

For further information, contact:

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2007 Abandoned Mine Land 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 2007: 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 2007 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)
- 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 (12pts.)**
 - 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 31, 2007

State and tribal Abandoned Mine Land Programs must provide nominations directly to the Office of Surface Mining Headquarters in Washington, D.C. by March 31, 2007. Nominations and questions about the awards should be emailed to tgeoghegan@osmre.gov