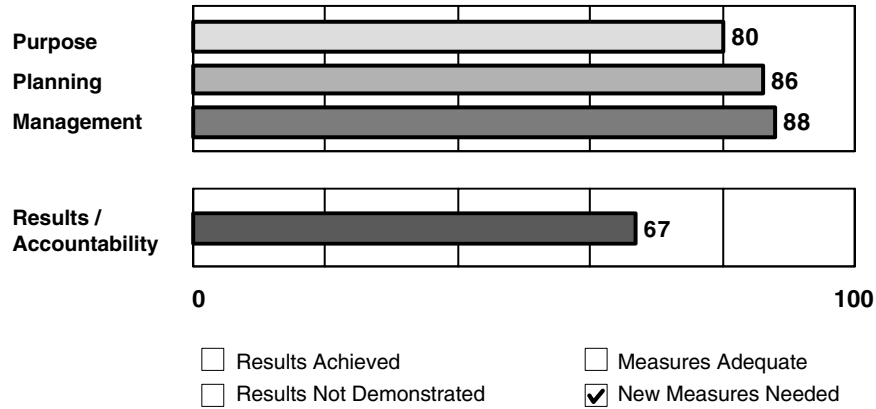


Program: Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

Agency: Department of the Interior

Bureau: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

Measure	Year	Target	Actual
Long-term Measure: Outcome measures under development, such as measuring reduction of health and safety problems of abandoned coal mine sites near communities			
Annual Measure: Equivalent acres of abandoned coal mine land with health and safety problems remaining to be reclaimed. (Base is 1998 - 129,000 acres held constant) NOTE: States identify additional equivalent acres at the rate of about 22,000 annually.	1999	119,900	118,051
	2000	111,800	105,875
	2001	103,200	92,067
	2002	96,200	
Efficiency Measure: Measure under development			

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Block / Formula Grants

Program Summary:

The Abandoned Mine Land program reclaims and restores land and water degraded by abandoned coal mining activities. Fees on coal production fund the program and a portion of the fees collected are appropriated annually. Twenty-three states and three Indian Tribes carry out the program with grants and program oversight from the Office of Surface Mining (OSM).

The assessment found that the program is well managed and implemented with considerable coordination among program stakeholders -- coal states and Indian Tribes. Over the past 25 years, the program has restored only one-third of the identified abandoned coal mine sites. Some states and Tribes have restored all of their abandoned coal mine sites and are using their grants for other purposes, as allowed by the program's authorizing legislation. The law requires about one-half of the fees collected within a state to be returned to the state for restoration or other purposes. The increased use of this funding by states for other uses is slowing the reclamation in states with large numbers of sites. Consequently, it will take over 50 years to restore all the sites. The coal fee, which funds this program, will expire on September 30, 2004.

While this assessment was based largely on existing measures, these measures do not adequately demonstrate results and will not be used in the next assessment. The Office of Surface Mining needs to develop measures that are outcome oriented, such as measuring how well the program is reducing health and safety problems related to abandoned coal mine sites near communities. In addition, OSM needs to develop an efficiency measure.

In response to these findings, the Administration will:

1. Propose legislative changes to the program's authorization to increase the rate of pre-1977 abandoned coal mine land reclaimed.
2. Extend the coal fee, which expires on September 30, 2004, to fund the remaining work.
3. Develop long-term measures that are more outcomes oriented and develop at least one efficiency measure.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
203	174	174