

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

DIRECTIVES SYSTEM

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Subject: Oversight of State Regulatory Programs

Approval: Brent Wahlquist

Title: Director

CHANGE NOTICE

- 1. <u>Purpose</u>. The purpose of the change notice is to revise the reporting period from an evaluation year basis to a calendar year reporting period for Table 1 of this Directive, Coal Produced for Sale, Transfer or Use.
- 2. <u>Background</u>. Revisions made to Directive REG-8 on December 21, 2006, included minor formatting changes; modification of the title of Table 1 to more accurately reflect the data reported in the table; and revision of the reporting period, from a calendar year to the evaluation year for purposes of comparison with evaluation data in the other tables, which is collected on an evaluation year basis.

Coal produced for sale, transfer or use is based on gross tons and is reported to OSM quarterly by each coal company. This information is due to OSM at the end of the month following the close of the calendar quarter, after which some additional time is needed to review and compile the data. Thus, the data is not generally available for inclusion in Table 1 until 45 days after the close of the calendar quarter. As a result, the data is not available for review by the primacy State regulatory authorities (SRAs) until after they have reviewed and commented on the rest of the regulatory data and evaluation report. Reinstating the calendar year reporting period will remedy this unintended consequence.

3. <u>Summary of Changes</u>. The last sentence in the Directive's "Instructions for Completion of Specific Tables" for Table 1, Coal Produced for Sale, Transfer or Use, is revised to state, "Provide production information for the latest three full calendar years, including the last full calendar year for which data is available."

The reporting period in the attached Table 1 is revised from "Evaluation Year" (EY) to "Calendar Year," and some additional clarification is provided in the note at the bottom of the table. (See Appendix 1)

4. **Definitions**. No change.

- **5. Policy.** No change.
- **6.** <u>Responsibilities.</u> The <u>Administrator</u> will ensure that the Table 1 template for reporting coal produced for sale, transfer or use in the Data for States and Tribes (DST) Database is revised to reflect a calendar year reporting period.
- 7. **Procedures.** No change.
- **8.** Reporting Requirements. The reporting period for Table 1, Coal Produced for Sale, Transfer or Use, is revised from an evaluation year basis to a calendar year basis effective with reporting for EY 2008. Since three consecutive years of coal production are reported on Table 1, the coal production data carried over from last year's Table 1 into Table 1 for EY 2008 will be converted from an evaluation year basis to a calendar year timeframe for purposes of consistent reporting. All other reporting requirements in Directive REG-8 remain unchanged.
- **9.** Effect on Other Documents. The three consecutive years of coal production data in Table 1 for EY 2007 were reported on an evaluation year basis. Since this data has been published in the annual regulatory evaluation reports for EY 2007 and the data used in other reports and studies, the coal production data in these reports will not be converted from an evaluation year basis to a calendar year timeframe. Calendar year reporting of coal production data will commence with EY 2008.
- 10. References. None
- 11. <u>Effective Date</u>. Upon issuance.
- **12.** <u>Distribution</u>. In electronic format for OSM Directives page and via email to all OSM organizational units involved in the oversight of State regulatory programs and reporting of regulatory data.
- **13. Appendices.** Appendix A. Revised Table 1, Coal Produced for Sale, Transfer or Use.
- **14.** <u>Contact</u>. Assistant Director for Program Support, Chief of the Division of Regulatory Support.

TABLE 1

COAL PRODUCED FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR USE (Millions of short tons)

Period	Surface mines	Underground Mines	Total	
Coal production ^A for entire State:				
Calendar Year				
YYYY				
YYYY				
YYYY				

A Coal production as shown in this table is the gross tonnage and includes coal produced during the calendar year (CY) for sale, transfer or use. The coal produced in each CY quarter is reported to OSM during the following quarter by each mining company on line 8(a) of form OSM-1, "Coal Reclamation Fee Report." Gross tonnage does not provide for a moisture reduction. OSM verifies tonnage reported through routine auditing of mining companies. This production may vary from that reported by States or other sources due to varying methods of determining and reporting coal production. **Provide production information for the latest three full calendar years to include the last full calendar year for which data is available.**