

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Minerals Management Service****30 CFR Part 210 and 218**

RIN 1010-AC86

Solid Minerals Reporting Requirements

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: On August 30, 2001, MMS published a final rule titled "Solid Minerals Reporting Requirements" (66 FR 45760) to implement MMS's reengineered compliance strategy for solid minerals. This document makes minor corrections to that final rule.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Correction

In **Federal Register** document 01-21638 published Thursday, August 30, 2001, make the following corrections:

1. On page 45771, in the third column, in § 210.201(c)(3)(i), the post office box number "5760" should read "5810" and the zip code "80217-5760" should read "80217-5810."

2. On page 45773, in the third column, in amendatory instruction 27.b., the words "pursuant to instructions in the 'AFS Payor Handbook—Solid Minerals'" should read "in the 'AFS Payor Handbook—Solid Minerals'."

Dated: September 19, 2001.

Lucy Querques Denett,

Associate Director for Minerals Revenue Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement****30 CFR Part 920**

[MD-050-FOR]

Maryland Regulatory Program

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: OSM is approving an amendment to the Maryland regulatory program (Maryland program) under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA or the Act). The amendment revises the Maryland statutes to require the use of financial disclosure forms by the Land Reclamation Committee. The amendment satisfies a required program amendment at 30 CFR 920.16(l). The amendment is intended to revise the Maryland program to be no less effective than the corresponding Federal regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 5, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Maryland Bureau of Mines, 160 South Water Street, Frostburg, Maryland 21532, Telephone: (301) 689-4136

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background on the Maryland Program
- II. Submission of the Amendment
- III. Director's Findings
- IV. Summary and Disposition of Comments
- V. Director's Decision
- VI. Procedural Determinations

I. Background on the Maryland Program

Section 503(a) of the Act permits a State to assume primacy for the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations on non-Federal and non-Indian lands within its borders by demonstrating that its program includes, among other things, " * * * a State law which provides for the regulation of surface coal mining and reclamation operations in accordance with the requirements of the Act * * * " and "rules and regulations consistent with regulations issued by the Secretary" pursuant to the Act. See 30 U.S.C. 1253(a)(1) and (7). On the basis of these criteria, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Maryland program on February 18, 1982. You can find background information on the Maryland program, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and the conditions of approval in the February 18, 1982, **Federal Register** (47 FR 7214). You can find subsequent actions concerning the conditions of approval and program amendments at 30 CFR 920.15 and 920.16.

II. Submission of the Amendment

By an undated letter received by OSM on May 7, 2001 (Administrative Record No. 578-12), Maryland submitted a copy of House Bill 984 as a formal proposed amendment to its program. The House Bill was enacted to require members of the Land Reclamation Committee to file a United States Department of Interior State Employee Statement of Employment and Financial Interests. Maryland submitted the formal amendment to satisfy a required amendment at 30 CFR 920.16(l). We announced the proposed amendment in the June 12, 2001, **Federal Register** (66 FR 31571), and in the same document opened the public comment period and provided an opportunity for a public hearing on the adequacy of the proposed amendment. The public comment period closed on July 12, 2001. We did not receive any public comments. No one requested an opportunity to speak at a public hearing, so no hearing was held.

III. Director's Findings

Set forth below, pursuant to SMCRA and the Federal regulations at 30 CFR 732.15 and 732.17, are the Director's findings concerning the amendments to the Maryland permanent regulatory program.

Maryland is adding new paragraph 4. to Section 15-204 of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, Environment, as follows:

(4) Members of the Land Reclamation Committee shall file a United States Department of Interior State Employee Statement of Employment and Financial Interests.

As a result of this addition, existing paragraph (4) is re-numbered as paragraph (5).

We find that the revision is no less effective than the Federal regulations at 30 CFR 705.11(a) and 705.17(a).

IV. Summary and Disposition of Comments*Federal Agency Comments*

On May 10, 2001, we asked for comments from various Federal agencies who may have an interest in the Maryland amendment (Administrative Record Number MD-578-13). We solicited comments in accordance with section 503(b) of SMCRA and 30 CFR 732.17(h)(11)(i) of the Federal regulations. No responses were received.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Pursuant to 30 CFR 732.17(h)(11)(ii), OSM is required to obtain the written concurrence of the EPA with respect to