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# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$725 Million from Investing in America Agenda to Clean Up Legacy Pollution

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*Funding will create good-paying jobs, catalyze economic revitalization in legacy coal communities*

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**WASHINGTON** — The Department of the Interior today announced that nearly \$725 million from President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is available to 22 states and the Navajo Nation to create good-paying jobs and catalyze economic opportunity by reclaiming abandoned coal mine lands. The law provides a total of \$11.3 billion in [abandoned mine land \(AML\) funding](#) over 15 years, which will help communities clean up dangerous environmental conditions and pollution caused by past coal mining. This funding is expected to enable reclamation of the majority of current inventoried abandoned mine lands in this country.

This is the second allotment of funding through the program. Nearly \$725 million was allocated in the first year. With this funding, states have started planning, hiring and construction, including on projects that will protect homes and infrastructure from subsidence and landslides, create new recreation opportunities, and clean up streams polluted with acid mine drainage.

“The Biden-Harris administration stands shoulder-to-shoulder with states and Tribal Nations in repairing the damage left by legacy coal mining,” said **Secretary Deb Haaland**. “Through the President’s Investing in America agenda, we are making the largest investment in abandoned mine reclamation in history, which will create good-paying jobs for current and former coal workers, help revitalize local economies, and advance environmental justice. These smart investments will build a cleaner, healthier and more just future for our children and grandchildren.”

“These historic investments are all part of the Administration’s all-of-government approach to support communities as they address the lingering impacts of extractive industries and transition to a clean energy future,” said **Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Laura Daniel-Davis**. “To help address these dangerous hazards and toxic pollution that continues to have an impact on our communities, we encourage all eligible states and Tribes to submit grant applications.”

AML reclamation projects support vitally needed jobs by investing in projects that close dangerous mine shafts, reclaim unstable slopes, prevent releases of harmful gases including methane, improve water quality by treating acid mine drainage, and restore water supplies damaged by mining. AML reclamation projects also enable economic revitalization by rehabilitating hazardous land so that it can be used for recreational facilities or other economic redevelopment uses like advanced manufacturing and renewable energy deployment.

This funding opportunity advances the Biden-Harris administration’s unprecedented investments in communities and workers to support an equitable transition to a sustainable economy and healthier environment after the closure of mines or power plants. This effort also advances the President’s commitment to environmental justice and the [Justice40 Initiative](#), which aims to deliver 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain climate and clean energy investments to disadvantaged communities.

The notice of funding opportunity follows the [release of final guidance](#) for how States and Tribes can apply for this historic funding. States and Tribes that apply for the funding are encouraged to:

- Prioritize projects that invest in disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution, consistent with the President’s Justice40 Initiative.
- Incorporate public review and comment into the selection of projects to be funded.
- Prioritize eligible projects to maximize the amount of methane emissions that can be reduced.
- Prioritize the employment of current and former coal industry workers.

Applications for the FY2023 BIL AML funds must be submitted in the [GrantSolutions website](#).

State	FY23 BIL AML Eligibility*
Alabama	\$20,441,000
Alaska	\$1,333,000
Arkansas	\$1,700,000
Colorado	\$9,962,000
Illinois	\$75,727,000
Indiana	\$24,654,000

Iowa	\$5,986,000
Kansas	\$4,852,000
Kentucky	\$74,217,000
Maryland	\$4,809,000
Missouri	\$5,859,000
Montana	\$4,599,000
Navajo Nation	\$1,661,000
New Mexico	\$2,422,000
North Dakota	\$3,100,000
Ohio	\$46,421,000
Oklahoma **	\$3,490,000
Pennsylvania	\$244,786,000
Tennessee	\$8,574,000
Texas	\$1,333,000
Utah	\$5,766,000
Virginia	\$22,780,000
West Virginia	\$140,684,000
Wyoming	\$9,693,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$724,849,000</b>

*\*Dollars have been rounded to the nearest thousand*

*\*\*Consistent with McGirt v. Oklahoma, 140 S. Ct. 2452 (2020), and related cases, neither the State of Oklahoma nor any of its agencies are currently eligible for BIL AML funding , Oklahoma v. U.S. Department of the Interior, No. CIV-21-719-F, 2022 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 204065 (W.D. Okla. Nov. 9, 2022). If one or more*

entities become eligible for BIL AML grants this fiscal year, [OSMRE is reserving BIL funds for AML reclamation on Indian lands in Oklahoma.](#)

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