

U.S. Department of the Interior **Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement** 

## OSMRE announces more than \$124.8 million to reclaim abandoned coal mines

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**WASHINGTON** – As part of the Biden-Harris administration's efforts to create good-paying jobs and address legacy pollution harming communities across the nation, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement announced today more than \$124.8 million in fiscal year 2024 abandoned mine land (AML) reclamation fee-based grants available to states and Tribes for AML reclamation efforts that continue to protect the health and safety of Americans and restore the environment.

"OSMRE is proud to announce the availability of the 2024 AML fee-based grants," said OSMRE Principal Deputy Director Sharon Buccino. "These grants will ensure our state and Tribal partners have the resources needed to continue their decades of successful reclamation work on our nation's abandoned mine land sites."

OSMRE, through its <u>AML Reclamation</u>
<u>Program</u>, addresses the hazards and
environmental degradation posed by legacy
coal mine sites, eliminating dangerous
conditions and pollution caused by past coal
mining. AML fee-based grants are funded in
part by a fee collected on all coal produced in
the United States. The Bipartisan
Infrastructure Law reauthorized and
extended the AML fee through September



Funds are used for abandoned mine lands reclamation projects like this project in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, which turned 600,00 cubic yards of abandoned coal mine refuse covering 27 acres in the South Fork Borough into a sprawling recreational area. Photo courtesy of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation.

30, 2034, ensuring AML fee-based grants to states and Tribes through 2035.

In fiscal year 2024, 24 coal-producing states and two Tribal AML reclamation programs are eligible to receive AML fee-based grants according to a congressionally mandated formula based on their past and current coal production. The total amount available for fiscal year 2024 AML fee-based grants was reduced by the mandated sequestration amount of 5.7%, resulting in the \$124.8 million allocated towards AML fee-based grant distribution.

OSMRE has distributed approximately \$8.5 billion in AML fee-based grants to states and Tribes to address the physical hazards posed by lands and waters mined and abandoned or left inadequately restored before 1977, when the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 was enacted.

These funds are in addition to funding provided by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization Program. All three programs support OSMRE's core mission of making people safer, cleaning up the environment, and encouraging economic development in coal communities. Visit <a href="https://www.osmre.gov/resources/grants-resources">www.osmre.gov/resources/grants-resources</a> to learn more about the fiscal year 2024 AML fee-based grant distribution and other funding opportunities.

Visit OSMRE's YouTube Channel to watch videos highlighting award-winning AML reclamation projects.

State/Tribe	Amount Allocated
Alabama	\$2,829,000
Alaska	\$2,828, 999
Arkansas	\$2,829,000
Colorado	\$2,829,001
Illinois	\$7,714,447
Indiana	\$3,433,097
Iowa	\$2,829,000
Kansas	\$2,829,000
Kentucky	\$7,400,010
Louisiana	\$8,675
Maryland	\$2,829,000
Mississippi	\$92,422
Missouri	\$2,829,000
Montana	\$2,3339,953
New Mexico	\$2,829,001
North Dakota	\$2,829,000
Ohio	\$3,818,252
Pennsylvania	\$21,482,485
Tennessee	\$2,829,000
Texas	\$489,762
Utah	\$2,829,000
Virginia	\$2,829,000
West Virginia	\$15,308,392
Wyoming	\$25,221,856
Crow Tribe	\$190,162
Navajo Nation	\$544,169
National Total	\$124,820,683

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OSMRE carries out the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 in cooperation with States and Tribes. OSMRE's objectives are to ensure that coal mining activities are conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, to ensure that the land is restored to beneficial use after mining, and to mitigate the effects of past mining by aggressively pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mines. For more information, visit <a href="www.osmre.gov">www.osmre.gov</a> or connect with us through any of these social media channels: <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Flickr">Flickr</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a>, <a href="X">X</a>, and <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.

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