

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Annual Evaluation Summary Report

for the

Regulatory Program

Administered by the State

of

MISSISSIPPI

for

Evaluation Year 1999

October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999

November 1999

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of Mississippi was one of the first States to achieve primacy under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Because the anticipated coal industry did not materialize, the State maintained a minimal program for a number of years and did not begin to mature into a fully functional State regulatory program until faced with the challenge of updating its coal mining regulations and statute in preparation for processing the first coal mining permit application presented to it since achieving primacy on September 4, 1980. After being notified of the impending application, the State accelerated the program update and was able to present the Office of Surface Mining with statutory and regulatory amendment packages by late 1997. Since that time, the State has completed its coal mining regulations and statute updates, received and processed a large, complex coal mining permit application, and developed processes to implement a coal mine regulatory program. Throughout this process, OSM has provided assistance, resources and personnel to assist the State in developing a fully operational program.

During the 1999 Evaluation Year, Mississippi implemented its inspection and enforcement program, beginning its monthly inspections of the Red Hills Lignite Mine on September 15, 1998. The Birmingham Field Office conducted assistance activities during that time period that were associated with the following areas: (1) helping the State develop techniques and expertise in performing monthly minesite inspections; (2) providing information on setting up an Abandoned Mine Lands program; (3) providing guidance and examples for inspection and enforcement forms and procedures; and, (4) assisting in the development of revegetation guidelines. In support of OSM's national initiatives, the BFO performed oversight studies for offsite impacts and customer service. The studies demonstrated that no offsite impacts had occurred on the coal mining permit during the review period and that Mississippi had quickly and appropriately processed the four complaints received during the review period.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THE REPORT

AML - Abandoned Mine Lands
BFO - Birmingham Field Office
EY - Evaluation Year
MCRCC - Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center
MOG - Mississippi Office of Geology
MSDEQ - Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
NHPA - National Historic Preservation Act
NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service
OSM - Office of Surface Mining
SMCRA - Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act
TIPS - Technical Information Processing System
TVA - Tennessee Valley Authority

I. INTRODUCTION

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) created the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) in the Department of the Interior. SMCRA provides authority to OSM to oversee the implementation of and provide Federal funding for State regulatory programs that have been approved by OSM as meeting the minimum standards specified by SMCRA. This report contains summary information regarding the Mississippi Regulatory Program and the effectiveness of the Mississippi Program in meeting the applicable purposes of SMCRA as specified in section 102. The program is administered by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MSDEQ), Mississippi Office of Geology (MOG). This report covers the period of October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999. Detailed background information and comprehensive reports for the program elements evaluated during the period are available for review and copying at OSM's Birmingham Field Office (BFO), 135 Gemini Circle, Suite 215, Homewood, AL 35209.

II. OVERVIEW OF THE MISSISSIPPI COAL MINING INDUSTRY

The State of Mississippi was one of the first States to be awarded primacy to regulate coal mining within its borders after passage of SMCRA in August, 1977. For a number of years after primacy was awarded, no serious interest surfaced for mining the lignite deposits found in Mississippi. Exploratory drilling throughout the Mississippi lignite fields began in the mid-1970's and culminated in the issuance of a permit to mine lignite in Choctaw County in August, 1998.

Coal is present in Mississippi in the form of lignite, a brownish black coal which is intermediate between peat and bituminous coal. The lignites found in Mississippi are part of a band of lignite that extends from south Texas through Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, and into central Alabama. Essentially all of the economically significant lignites in Mississippi are found in the Eocene Wilcox and Claiborne groups, which come into the state just east of Memphis, Tennessee and proceed through the state in a shallow eastern-progressing curve, exiting into Alabama approximately midway down the State. Typically, lignite beds or seams which can be mined for economic purposes range from 2 to 9 feet in thickness. 1978 estimates of the total lignite resources for the state in lignite beds 2 feet thick or greater and less than 200 feet in depth were 5 billion tons. Mississippi lignite resources equal about 13% of the total U.S. lignite resources of 40 billion tons. For the foreseeable future, lignite will primarily be used for the generation of electricity.

The Red Hills Power Project in Choctaw County, the site of the only permitted lignite mine in the State of Mississippi, developed as a result of an initiative by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to explore options for additional power generation. A load forecast, developed by TVA, projected a demand for electricity that would exceed TVA's

1996 generating capacity by the year 2005. One option chosen by TVA to meet this demand was the purchase of power from independent power producers. An independent power producer, Tractebel Power, Inc., submitted a proposal to TVA for the sale of the total electric power output from the Red Hills Power Project. The generation facility, with a net output of 440 MW of electricity, was estimated to consume about 3 million tons per year of lignite from the Red Hills Lignite Mine. The lignite mine is located between the generation facility and the Natchez Trace Parkway near the town of Ackerman, Mississippi. Mine development, which began in September, 1998, consists of the construction of access roads, mine support facilities, a lignite handling facility, temporary stream diversions, a stormwater runoff control pond and sedimentation control ponds. Overburden removal began in 1999 with actual lignite mining to begin in 2000, concurrent with the completion of the generation facility. Mining will begin near the generation facility, progress toward the northwest, and disturb about 110 acres per year. Over the 30-year life of the mine, about 4700 acres will be disturbed - 1400 acres by mine development activities and 3300 by lignite removal operations. Lignite will be mined from six (6) seams.

Mississippi has a small inventory of abandoned lignite mines. A total of nine (9) sites have been identified in five (5) counties. All of the sites for which acreage was available were listed as less than one (1) acre in size. Three (3) of the sites involved the underground mining of lignite. Numerous other small lignite mines are known to exist in Mississippi, but have not been inventoried. The lignite was typically used for blacksmithing and for home heating.

III. OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE OVERSIGHT PROCESS AND THE STATE PROGRAMS

Opportunities for public participation occur at various points throughout the Mississippi regulatory program and involve the ability of the public to initiate rulemaking (§109), to initiate citizen suits (§111), to request that areas be designated as unsuitable for mining (§1505), to review permit and revision applications (§2109), to object to proposed bond releases (§4501), and to request an inspection of a minesite (§6303). In addition to these citations, public input can be found in other parts of the State's program. Chapter 31 details public participation requirements for permit applications. When exemptions from obtaining a coal mine permit due to the incidental extraction of coal are submitted, this information is available for public review (§409). Information that is found on the database and inventory system related to areas designated as unsuitable for mining is available for public inspection and copying (§1511). Newspaper notices are required which advertise the receipt by the Department of permit applications (§2321). Mississippi's regulations at §3301 state that any interested party in an action by the Permit Board may request a formal hearing concerning the action.

IV. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ISSUES/INNOVATIONS IN THE MISSISSIPPI PROGRAM

Mississippi has made major advances in its coal mine regulatory program since receiving notification that Phillips Coal Company intended to develop a lignite mine in the State. Previous to that time, Mississippi had been engaged in updating its coal mining regulations, but increased interest was generated in completing the regulatory update following Phillips Coal Company's announcement. During the 1997 legislative year, the Mississippi Legislature passed a bill which updated its coal mining statute. On January 9, 1998, OSM approved, with exceptions and additional requirements, revisions to the Mississippi Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Law. Concurrently, Mississippi, with assistance from OSM, completed the update to its coal mining regulations. On March 26, 1998, formal amendment submittals for both the revised regulations and for required changes to the coal mining statute were presented to OSM. The statutory changes were approved by OSM on June 25, 1998, with the revised regulations receiving approval on August 13, 1998.

In February, 1997, the Executive Director of the MSDEQ assembled a team from throughout his agency to address the issues associated with the environmental permits which would be required for the Red Hills Power Project. Personnel from the Office of Geology, the Office of Land and Water Resources, the Office of Pollution Control, and the Legal Division were assigned the technical review of the applications for the various permits which would be required. One of the permit applications to be reviewed was the first-ever surface coal mining permit application. The application was received in late September, 1997.

The BFO was involved from the onset in assisting Mississippi with the permit review. The first meeting between OSM and MSDEQ representatives was held on October 8, 1997, at the Office of Geology to plan assistance activities with the State. Subjects, such as training, Technical Information Processing System (TIPS) installation and support, the status of needed revisions to the Mississippi statute and regulations, and the establishment of State systems and procedures to administer a fully operational regulatory program, were discussed. A Mississippi Oversight team was developed in the BFO to monitor progress in the assistance areas mentioned above and to proactively secure any manner of assistance identified by the State or OSM. OSM personnel provided onsite permit review instruction, as well as assisting in portions of the permit review at Mississippi's request. OSM personnel informally reviewed and provided comments to the State on the proposed revisions to Mississippi's mining statute and regulations, as well as performing critical reviews of the final products. OSM provided feedback to Mississippi on necessary programmatic structure, personnel, equipment and training so that the State program could become fully functional. State personnel attended numerous OSM-sponsored technical courses throughout the year. The BFO provided Mississippi field personnel with a week-long field inspection training program in Alabama, so that the Mississippi personnel could observe actual coal mine inspection procedures and techniques on active coal mines.

On May 11, 1998, MSDEQ determined the surface coal mining permit application for the Red Hills Lignite Mine complete. The Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board held a public hearing on this and other environmental permits on July 9, 1998. On August 25, 1998, the Permit Board issued the first coal mining permit for the State of Mississippi.

During the 1999 Evaluation Year (EY), Mississippi continued to strengthen its coal mine regulatory program with assistance from OSM. With technical input from the Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center (MCRCC), Mississippi processed and approved six revisions of the original mining permit. Regular monthly inspections of the permit began on September 15, 1998. Thirteen partial and complete inspections were conducted during the review period. The required inspection frequency of monthly inspections with a complete inspection each quarter was maintained. The BFO continued to provide field training of Mississippi inspection, technical and legal personnel at locations in Alabama to provide the State staff with the opportunity to observe inspection techniques on active and inactive mining operations. Three separate multi-day training sessions were conducted by the BFO during the year. As agreed to in the 1999 performance agreement, BFO inspectors accompanied Mississippi inspectors on their monthly inspections through December, 1998. At that time, Mississippi requested and the BFO agreed to reduce the joint inspection schedule to an as-needed basis.

Mississippi also proceeded to amend its approved regulations to resolve conditions placed on the State during the approval of the updated regulations on August 13, 1998. The amendment package was received on July 1, 1999 and addressed all required changes except establishing revegetation guidelines and temporary relief regulations associated with notices of violation and cessation orders.

V. SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING THE PURPOSES OF SMCRA AS DETERMINED BY MEASURING AND REPORTING END RESULTS

To further the concept of reporting end results, the findings from performance standard and public participation evaluations are collected for a national perspective. For the majority of primacy States, these findings include descriptions of the number and extent of observed offsite impacts, the number of acres that have been mined and reclaimed and which meet the bond release requirements for the various phases of reclamation, and the effectiveness of customer service provided by the State. Since mining in Mississippi is barely one year old, only the evaluations of offsite impacts and customer service applied. Individual topic reports are available in the BFO which provide additional details on how the following evaluations and measurements were conducted.

A. Offsite Impacts:

OSM annually evaluates and reports on the effectiveness of State regulatory programs in protecting the environment and the public from offsite impacts resulting from surface coal mining and reclamation operations. Offsite impact data is gathered nationwide in order to portray the on-the-ground success of State programs in preventing or minimizing offsite impacts.

An offsite impact is defined as anything resulting from coal mining which causes a negative effect on resources (people, land, water, structures). Also, the impact would be regulated or controlled by the applicable State program. The impact must be coal mine related and must occur outside the area authorized by the permit for conducting mining and reclamation activities.

The Offsite Impacts study was accomplished by collecting data during three complete joint inspections and one partial joint inspection. Data was also collected from MOG inspection reports, and the files were checked for any enforcement actions issued by MOG. Two Notices of Violation were written by MOG for failure to construct basins as certified. Neither involved offsite impacts. Had any offsite impact been identified, they would have been evaluated to determine what could have been done to prevent the impact and what was done on the ground to correct the problem.

The BFO's joint inspections of the mine site occurred throughout the evaluation year, beginning in November, 1998, and ending in August, 1999. No offsite impacts were identified during the joint inspections. No offsite impacts were noted on any of the inspection reports prepared by MOG. No State Notices of Violation containing offsite impacts were issued by MOG. Therefore, 100 percent of the mine sites in Mississippi are free of offsite impacts.

B. Reclamation Success:

The first coal mining permit ever issued in the State of Mississippi was issued on August 25, 1998. No bond release actions were processed during the review period.

C. Customer Service:

The BFO selected the processing of citizen complaints as its review of specific State activities related to customer service. This review was conducted to compare the actions and steps taken during the processing of citizen complaints with the guidelines developed and adopted by the MOG. This study was to also include a review of the appropriateness of the MOG's response to the citizen to assure that the citizen's concerns were addressed. The processing of citizen complaints received by MOG through the Ten-Day Notice process was also part of the review.

The MOG received a total of four complaints during the October 1, 1998, through July 15, 1999, time period. After conducting an initial investigation, the MOG staff determined that two of these complaints did not relate to the permit. One complaint was an air quality issue and another one concerned sediment from the power plant construction site. These complaints were forwarded to the Office of Pollution Control on the same day that they were received by the MOG staff.

One other oral complaint was received by the MOG through a MSDEQ employee regarding offsite sedimentation. A memorandum was written to document the joint inspections made with OSM reclamation inspectors and individual Mississippi inspections of the conditions at the check dams covering the time period from October 21, 1998, through February 10, 1999. The ponds were still under construction at the time of these inspections and no violations were noted.

The other complaint came via a verbal inquiry from a Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) staff member. The NRCS staff member reported that his agency had received several anonymous complaints regarding the extreme muddiness of Little Bywy Creek. MOG staff conducted a site visit within a day of the oral inquiry, performed an Imhoff Cone test, took photographs, and collected grab water samples for laboratory testing. The Imhoff Cone test indicated that there was no measurable accumulation of sediment. No violations were found. During the interview with the MOG staff, they stated that they advised the NRCS staff to refer future complainants to the MOG for investigation of the complaint.

The BFO did not refer any complaints to the MOG through the Ten-Day Notice process during the review period.

The BFO review indicated that the MOG was timely in reviewing and forwarding the two complaints that were not related to the permitted site to the appropriate office for investigation. These complaints were referred to the Office of Pollution Control the same day that they were received by the MOG staff.

Although the complaint which came via the NRCS was only a verbal inquiry, the MOG investigated the site conditions within one day of receipt of the complaint. A report which documented the conditions of the check dams was on file for the oral complaint which was relayed by a MSDEQ employee to the MOG.

Although the MOG did not receive any direct written citizen complaints, our review indicated that the MOG handled each oral complaint expeditiously. We do not have any recommendations to offer to improve the process.

VI. OSM ASSISTANCE

OSM's oversight role has shifted to focus more on on-the-ground reclamation success and end results than on processes. OSM's changing role now emphasizes assisting the State in improving its regulatory program by identifying program needs and offering financial, technical, and programmatic assistance as necessary to strengthen the State program. In addition to engaging in the specific assistance activities discussed below, the BFO routinely provided information to the MOG regarding new policy guidelines and procedures as well as changes in existing guidelines and procedures.

Monthly Inspections

The BFO agreed to perform monthly joint inspections of the Red Hills Lignite Mine with the MOG inspectors through January 1999 at which time the need for monthly inspections would be evaluated. Inspections were performed jointly with the State inspectors from September, 1998 through December, 1998. In January, 1999, the BFO and the MOG agreed that future inspections would be performed on an as-needed basis. In accordance with this agreement, the BFO moved from an assistance mode into an oversight mode in the area of inspections. Two additional inspections were performed, one in May and the other in August. Both were complete, oversight inspections.

Revising NHPA Documents

During the 1998 review year, it was determined that Mississippi had developed two National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) documents, a programmatic agreement and a Memorandum of Agreement, for its program. It was determined that both documents needed to be revised for format and content purposes. The BFO agreed to assist the MOG in revising these documents. Due to changing NHPA regulations and workload constraints, the BFO was unable to complete this activity during the review year. In agreement with the MOG, this assistance activity was moved into the EY 2000 performance agreement.

Development of an AML Program

As part of the 1999 Performance Agreement, the BFO agreed to assist the MOG in developing an Abandoned Mine Land (AML) program. The BFO provided the MOG a copy of the Alabama AML statute to use as a model to draft their own statute for submittal to the Mississippi legislature. The sample statute was sent to the MOG on April 6, 1999. It was determined that no additional assistance was needed until the Mississippi mining statute was updated to include an AML program.

Development of Inspection and Enforcement Forms and Procedures

The BFO agreed to assist MOG in developing inspection and enforcement forms and regulatory procedures. During the inspector training conducted by the BFO in July, 1998, the BFO provided the MOG with copies of all pertinent Federal inspection and enforcement forms. In May, 1999, Mississippi provided the BFO with draft copies of the forms they had developed, using the Federal forms as guides. Comments were sent to Mississippi on May 18, 1999.

Revising Revegetation Guidelines

In accordance with OSM regulation 30 CFR § 924.16(i), Mississippi was required to revise its regulations to include revegetation guidelines with detailed success standards and sampling techniques for measuring success. The MOG requested that OSM assist in the development of these guidelines. At the BFO's request, the MCRCC provided Mississippi with revegetation guidelines developed for the State of Missouri. A MCRCC representative met with Mississippi on January 21-22, 1999, to assist in development of the guidelines. By the end of the review period, Mississippi had produced 108 pages of guidelines, but was waiting for input from NRCS on cotton sampling standards and procedures. Once completed, the guidelines will go to the Mississippi legal staff and MCRCC simultaneously for review.

VII. GENERAL OVERSIGHT TOPIC REVIEWS

No oversight studies, other than offsite impacts and customer service, were conducted during the evaluation period.

APPENDIX A

TABULAR SUMMARY OF CORE

DATA TO CHARACTERIZE THE PROGRAM

The following tables present data pertinent to mining operations and State regulatory activities within Mississippi. They also summarize funding provided by OSM and Mississippi staffing. Unless otherwise specified, the reporting period for the data contained in all tables is the same as the evaluation year. Additional data used by OSM in its evaluation of Mississippi's performance is available for review in the evaluation files maintained by the Birmingham OSM Office.

TABLE 1

COAL PRODUCTION (Millions of short tons)			
Period	Surface mines	Underground mines	Total
Coal production ^A for entire State:			
Calendar Year			
1996	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0

^A Coal production as reported in this table is the gross tonnage which includes coal that is sold, used or transferred as reported to OSM by each mining company on form OSM-1 line 8(a). 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.

TABLE 2

INSPECTABLE UNITS As of September 30, 1999														
Coal mines and related facilities	Number and status of permits								Insp. Unit ^D	Permitted acreage ^A				
	Active or temporarily inactive		Inactive		Abandoned		Totals							
			Phase II bond release											
	IP	PP	IP	PP	IP	PP	IP	PP		IP	PP	Total		
STATE and PRIVATE LANDS REGULATORY AUTHORITY: STATE														
Surface mines	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1908	1908		
Underground mines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Subtotals	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1908	1908		
FEDERAL LANDS REGULATORY AUTHORITY: STATE														
Surface mines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Underground mines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Subtotals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
ALL LANDS ^B														
Surface mines	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1,908	1,908		
Underground mines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Totals	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1,908	1,908		
Average number of permits per inspectable unit (excluding exploration sites)											1			
Average number of acres per inspectable unit (excluding exploration sites)											1908			
Number of exploration permits on State and private lands:											0	On Federal lands:	0	^C
Number of exploration notices on State and private lands:											0	On Federal lands:	0	^C
^{IP} : Initial regulatory program sites. ^{PP} : Permanent regulatory program sites. ^A When a unit is located on more than one type of land, includes only the acreage located on the indicated type of land. ^B Numbers of units may not equal the sum of the three preceding categories because a single inspectable unit may include lands in more than one of the preceding categories. ^C Includes only exploration activities regulated by the State pursuant to a cooperative agreement with OSM or by OSM pursuant to a Federal lands program. Excludes exploration regulated by the Bureau of Land Management. ^D Inspectable Units includes multiple permits that have been grouped together as one unit for inspection frequency purposes by some State programs.														

TABLE 3

**STATE PERMITTING ACTIVITY
As of September 30, 1999**

Type of application	Surface mines			Underground mines			Other facilities			Totals		
	App. Rec.	Issued	Acres	App. Rec.	Issued	Acres ^A	App. Rec.	Issued	Acres	App. Rec.	Issued	Acres
New permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renewals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers, sales and assignments of permit rights	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0	
Small operator assistance	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0	
Exploration permits	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0	
Exploration notices ^B		0			0			0			0	
Revisions (exclusive of incidental boundary revisions)		5			0			0			5	
Incidental boundary revisions		1	.02		0	0		0	0		1	.02
Totals	0	6	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.02

OPTIONAL - Number of midterm permit reviews completed that are not reported as revisions 0

^A Includes only the number of acres of proposed surface disturbance.

^B State approval not required. Involves removal of less than 250 tons of coal and does not affect lands designated unsuitable for mining.

TABLE 4

OFF-SITE IMPACTS														
RESOURCES AFFECTED			People			Land			Water			Structures		
DEGREE OF IMPACT			minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major
TYPE OF IMPACT AND TOTAL NUMBER OF EACH TYPE	Blasting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Land Stability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hydrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Encroachment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OFF-SITE IMPACTS ON BOND FORFEITURE SITES														
RESOURCES AFFECTED			People			Land			Water			Structures		
DEGREE OF IMPACT			minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major	minor	moderate	major
TYPE OF IMPACT AND TOTAL NUMBER OF EACH TYPE	Blasting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Land Stability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hydrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Encroachment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The objective of this table is to report all off-site impacts identified in a State regardless of the source of the information. Report the degree of impact under each resource that was affected by each type of impact. Refer to guidelines in Directive REG-8 for determining degree of impact. More than one resource may be affected by each type of impact. Therefore, the total number of impacts will likely be less than the total number of resources affected; i.e. the numbers under the resources columns will not necessarily add horizontally to equal the total number for each type of impact. As provided by the Table, report impacts identified on bond forfeiture sites separately from impacts identified on other sites. If bond forfeiture sites were not evaluated during the period, clearly note the table to indicate that fact. Impacts related to mine subsidence or to other areas where impacts are not prohibited are not included in this table. **Refer to report narrative for complete explanation and evaluation of the information provided by this table.**

TABLE 5

ANNUAL STATE MINING AND RECLAMATION RESULTS		
Bond release phase	Applicable performance standard	Acreage released during this evaluation period
Phase I	* <input type="checkbox"/> Approximate original contour restored * <input type="checkbox"/> Topsoil or approved alternative replaced	0
Phase II	* <input type="checkbox"/> Surface stability * <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of vegetation	0
Phase III	* <input type="checkbox"/> Post-mining land use/productivity restored * <input type="checkbox"/> Successful permanent vegetation * <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater recharge, quality and quantity restored * <input type="checkbox"/> Surface water quality and quantity restored	0
	Bonded Acreage Status^A	Acres
	Total number of bonded acres at end of last review period (September 30, 1998) ^B	1908
	Total number of bonded acres during this evaluation year	0
	Number of acres bonded during this evaluation year that are considered remining, if available	0
	Number of acres where bond was forfeited during this evaluation year (also report this acreage on Table 7)	0
^A Bonded acreage is considered to approximate and represent the number of acres disturbed by surface coal mining and reclamation operations. ^B Bonded acres in this category are those that have not received a Phase III or other final bond release (State maintains jurisdiction).		

TABLE 6

STATE BOND FORFEITURE ACTIVITY			
(Permanent Program Permits)			
	Number of Sites	Dollars	Disturbed Acres
Bonds forfeited as of September 30, 1998 ^A	0	0	0
Bonds forfeited during EY 1999	0	0	0
Forfeited bonds collected as September 30, 1998 ^A	0	0	0
Forfeited bonds collected during EY 1999	0	0	0
Forfeiture sites reclaimed during EY 1999	0	0 ^B	0
Forfeiture sites repermited during EY 1999	0		0
Forfeiture sites unreclaimed as of September 30, 1999	0		0
Excess reclamation costs recovered from permittee	0	0	
Excess forfeiture proceeds returned to permittee	0	0	
^A Includes data only for those forfeiture sites not fully reclaimed as of this date. ^B Cost of reclamation, excluding general administrative expenses.			

TABLE 7

STATE STAFFING (Full-time equivalents at end of evaluation year)	
Function	EY 1999
Regulatory program	
P e r m i t r e v i e w	0.87
I n s p e c t i o n	1.90
O t h e r (a d m i n i s t r a t i v e , f i s c a l , p e r s o n n e l , e t c .)	0.42
TOTAL	3.19

TABLE 8

FUNDS GRANTED TO MISSISSIPPI BY OSM		
EY 1999		
Type of grant	Federal funds awarded	Federal funding as a percentage of total program costs
Administration and enforcement	115,960	50%
Small operator assistance	0	0
Totals	115,960	

APPENDIX B

STATE COMMENTS ON THE REPORT

[Mississippi " December 9, 1999]