



OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

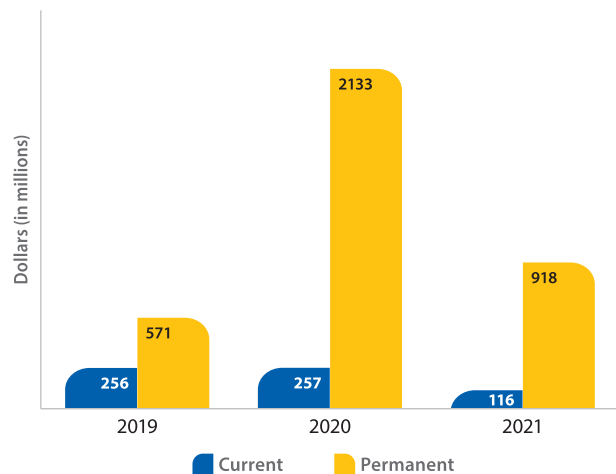
Mission—The mission of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is to ensure—through a nationwide regulatory program, in cooperation with the States and Tribes—that coal mining activities are conducted in a manner that protects communities and the environment during mining, ensures land is restored to beneficial use following mining, and mitigates the effects of past mining through the reclamation of abandoned mine lands.

Budget Overview—The 2021 budget request for OSMRE is \$116.2 million. The 2021 budget delivers OSMRE’s core mission requirements for oversight and supports State and Tribal programs to ensure effective, consistent, and high-quality regulatory and reclamation programs across the Nation. OSMRE estimates staffing will total 398 full-time equivalents in 2021.

Regulation and Technology—The 2021 budget request for Regulation and Technology, Title V of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) is \$93.1 million. The budget includes \$66.3 million for Environmental Protection programs. Within that, the 2021 budget includes \$43.1 million for State and Tribal regulatory grants. Other program funding supports State Program Evaluation and Federal Program operations, which regulate coal mining in States and for Tribes that do not have approved regulatory programs that fulfill OSMRE’s Title V obligations. The budget includes \$23.2 million to maintain and support those State, Federal, and Indian lands programs.

OSMRE’s statutory role is to promote and assist its partner States and Tribes in establishing a

OSMRE Funding



stable regulatory environment for coal mining. The proposed level of regulatory grant funding provides for the efficient and effective operations of programs—at a level consistent with the anticipated obligations of State and Tribal regulatory programs—to account for the Nation’s demand for coal mine permitting and production.

The 2021 budget request includes \$13.3 million to support mission-focused Technology Development and Transfer activities. As mining and engineering information and technology continue to improve, OSMRE continues to provide States and Tribes with the most up-to-date information, technical training, technical assistance, and technology transfer. These programs help States and Tribes fulfill SMCRA’s requirements in the operation of their regulatory and reclamation programs and support advancements, such as electronic permitting and applied science solutions, specific to coal-mined

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT Facts



- The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement was created in 1977 when Congress enacted the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.
- OSMRE ensures coal mining operations are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner.
- The office requires land to be adequately reclaimed and restored to beneficial use—during and following the mining process—through regulation.
- OSMRE institutes nationwide programs to protect society and the environment from the potential adverse effects of surface coal mining operations.
- The office trains hundreds of State and Tribal professionals in a broad range of reclamation skills, such as reestablishing wildlife habitat.
- OSMRE planted or assisted in planting nearly 320,000 trees covering 380 acres in 2019. OSMRE has planted 2.7 million trees over the past 10 years.

sites. The request includes \$13.5 million for Financial Management and general program support to OSMRE operations.

As in prior years, the budget proposes to recover the cost of reviewing, administering, and enforcing permits for surface coal mining and reclamation in Federal programs and on Indian lands where OSMRE is the regulatory authority and encourages States to further pursue cost-recovery options. OSMRE expects to recover \$40,000 in permitting fees in 2021.

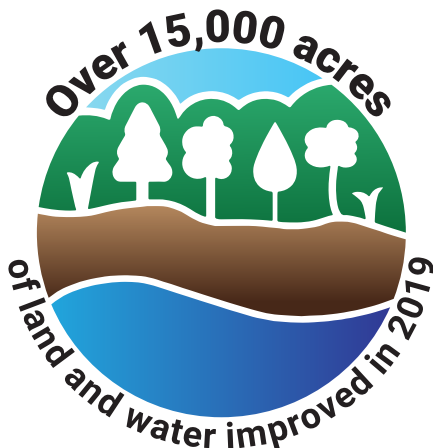
Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Reclamation—Under Title IV of SMCRA, effective State, Tribal, and Federal abandoned mine land programs help to ensure the expeditious return of lands mined before the enactment of SMCRA in 1977 to effective

post-mining land uses. OSMRE's proposed budget fulfills that statutory requirement.

The 2021 budget request for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund is \$23.1 million. That amount includes \$8.2 million for Environmental Restoration activities that focus on State and Federal programs, \$3.6 million for Technology Development and Transfer programs, and \$11.3 million to support Financial Management and general OSMRE program operations to fulfill OSMRE's Title IV obligations in the reclamation of abandoned mine lands.

Management Reforms—The 2021 budget helps to advance several significant management reforms. The budget supports the Administration's priority workforce goal to incentivize employee performance to better recognize high-performing employee contributions to mission achievement across the office. In 2021, the Department proposes to consolidate all agency ethics staffing and funding within the Departmental Ethics Office in the Office of the Solicitor. The 2021 budget therefore assumes a transfer of \$194,000 and 1 FTE associated with current office ethics activities. The budget also supports operations and maintenance of an enterprisewide grants management and tracking system, GrantSolutions.

Fixed Costs—Fixed costs of \$924,000 are fully funded in the request.



Number of land and water acres improved by AML reclamation during FY 2019



Students join the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, BLM, and OSMRE to plant sagebrush seedlings as part of the AML Native Plants Project.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS (all dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2021 Request with 2020 Enacted

	2020 Enacted		2021 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Regulation and Technology	298	117,768	298	93,102	0	-24,666
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	100	139,713	100	23,064	0	-116,649
Subtotal, Current	398	257,481	398	116,166	0	-141,315
Permanent						
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	0	165,732	0	168,178	0	+2,446
Payments to States in Lieu of Coal Fee Receipts.....	0	42,260	0	45,200	0	+2,940
Supplemental Payments to United Mine Workers of America Health Plans	0	1,925,493	0	704,800	0	-1,220,693
Subtotal, Permanent	0	2,133,485	0	918,178	0	-1,215,307
TOTAL, OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT.....	398	2,390,966	398	1,034,344	0	-1,356,622

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Regulation and Technology

	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021 Request	Change
Environmental Protection.....	88,562	88,562	66,319	-22,243
Permit Fees.....	40	40	40	0
<i>Offsetting Collections—Permit Fees.....</i>	0	-40	-40	0
Technology, Development and Transfer	12,801	14,765	13,288	-1,477
Financial Management	505	505	502	-3
Executive Direction and Administration.....	13,936	13,936	12,993	-943
Civil Penalties	20	100	100	0
<i>Offsetting Collections—Civil Penalties.....</i>	-20	-100	-100	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	115,844	117,768	93,102	-24,666

Detail of Budget Changes

	2021 Change from 2020 Enacted		2021 Change from 2020 Enacted
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-24,666	Training.....	+56
Regulation and Technology.....	-24,666	Fixed Costs.....	+56
Environmental Protection	-22,243	Technology Transfer.....	-1,327
State and Tribal Funding	-25,487	Applied Science Projects.....	-470
Regulatory Grant Funding	-25,487	GeoMine/AMDTreat	-889
State Program Evaluation.....	+238	Fixed Costs.....	+32
Fixed Costs.....	+238	Financial Management	-3
Federal Programs.....	+1,464	Revenue Management	-6
Improve Mine Plan Review		Operational Efficiencies	-12
Processes.....	+1,373	Fixed Costs.....	+6
Fixed Costs.....	+91	Grants Financial Management.....	+3
Federal Lands.....	+29	Fixed Costs.....	+3
Fixed Costs.....	+29	Executive Direction and Administration ..	-943
Indian Lands	+493	Executive Direction	-84
Improve Mine Plan Review		Transfer Ethics Program to Solicitor ..	-128
Processes.....	+449	Fixed Costs.....	+44
Fixed Costs.....	+44	Administrative Support.....	+88
Program Development and		Fixed Costs.....	+88
Maintenance	+1,020	General Services.....	-947
GrantSolutions Enterprise System	+144	General Program Activities	-781
Improve Mine Plan Review		Fixed Costs.....	-166
Processes.....	+773		
Fixed Costs.....	+103	Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple	
Technology, Development and Transfer...	-1,477	Subactivities	
Technical Assistance.....	-206	Fixed Costs	[+709]
Coal Information Management		Improve Mine Plan Review Processes.....	[+2,595]
System.....	-347		
Fixed Costs.....	+141		

APPROPRIATION: Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund

	2019 Actual	2020 Enacted	2021 Request	Change
Environmental Restoration.....	124,480	124,480	8,181	-116,299
Technology, Development and Transfer	3,544	3,576	3,608	+32
Financial Management	5,182	5,191	5,277	+86
Executive Direction and Administration.....	6,466	6,466	5,998	-468
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	139,672	139,713	23,064	-116,649

Detail of Budget Changes

	2021 Change from 2020 Enacted		2021 Change from 2020 Enacted
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-116,649	Training.....	+20
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	-116,649	Fixed Costs.....	+20
Environmental Restoration.....	-116,299	Technology Transfer.....	+3
State Program Evaluation.....	+45	Fixed Costs.....	+3
Fixed Costs.....	+45	Financial Management	+86
Federal Reclamation Programs—		Fee Compliance.....	+83
Projects	-1,548	Fixed Costs.....	+83
Watershed Cooperative Agreement		Grants Financial Management.....	+3
Program.....	-1,548	Fixed Costs.....	+3
Federal Reclamation Programs—		Executive Direction and Administration ..	-468
Operations	+15	Executive Direction	-45
Fixed Costs.....	+15	Transfer Ethics Program to Solicitor ..	-66
Program Development and		Fixed Costs.....	+21
Maintenance	+189	Administrative Support.....	+42
GrantSolutions Enterprise System	+144	Fixed Costs.....	+42
Fixed Costs.....	+45	General Services.....	-465
AML Economic Development Grants ...	-115,000	General Program Activities	-383
AML Economic Development		Fixed Costs.....	-82
Grants	-115,000		
Technology, Development and Transfer...	+32	Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple	
Technical Assistance.....	+9	Subactivities	
Coal Information Management		Fixed Costs	[+215]
System.....	-11		
Fixed Costs.....	+20		

