



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, that coal mining is conducted in a manner that protects communities and the environment during mining, land is restored to beneficial use following mining, and the harmful environmental and health effects of past mining are mitigated by aggressively pursuing reclamation of abandoned mine lands.

Budget Overview

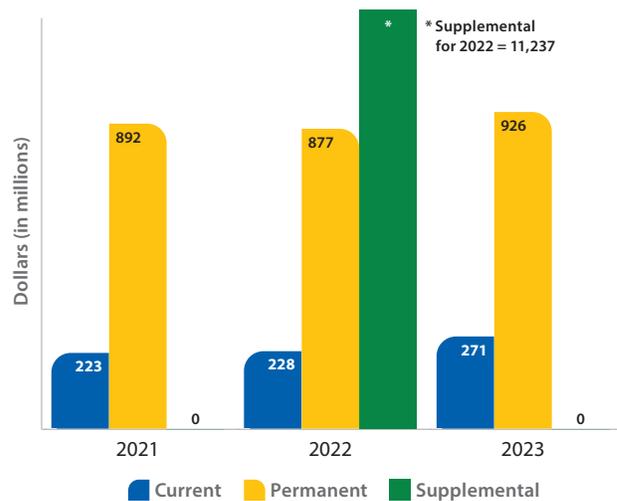
The 2023 budget request for OSMRE is \$271.2 million in current appropriations. OSMRE estimates that staffing will equal 427 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2023. The bureau expects to recover \$40,000 of the costs to review, administer, and enforce permits for surface coal mining and reclamation on Federal and Indian lands in 2023. OSMRE also expects to collect \$100,000 from civil penalties under Section 518 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA).

Regulation and Technology

The 2023 budget for the Regulation and Technology Account is \$122.1 million. This account supports the regulatory functions defined by the SMCRA and administered by the States and OSMRE. Federal activities related to the administration and monitoring of State regulatory programs and OSMRE's technical training, assistance, and transfer activities related to environmental protection are also funded.

The 2023 budget includes \$89.6 million for Environmental Protection programs. The request for

OSMRE Funding



State and Tribal regulatory grants is \$65.0 million and fully funds estimated requirements. The 2023 request for regulatory grants 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 budget includes \$24.6 million for other functions under Title V of SMCRA, including State Program Evaluation and Federal Program operations, which regulate coal mining in States and for Tribes without approved regulatory programs. This amount includes \$1.5 million to establish a Federal regulatory program for Tribes in Oklahoma, as required by the July 2020 decision by the Supreme Court in the case of *McGirt v. Oklahoma*.



- The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) was established in 1977 when Congress enacted the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.
- OSMRE institutes nationwide programs to protect human health and the environment from the potential adverse effects of surface coal-mining operations.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58) provides \$11.3 billion for grants to States and Tribes over the next 15 years to help communities eliminate dangerous environmental conditions and pollution caused by past coal mining.
- OSMRE maintains more than 500 terabytes of completed mining operations maps that support identification of mineral reserves and economic planning and development.

The 2023 budget includes \$32.5 million for Technology Development and Transfer, Financial Management, and Executive Direction activities, which support the overall Regulation and Technology program. Within the Regulation and Technology appropriation, the budget includes \$1.0 million to transition OSMRE fleet vehicles to clean energy.

Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund

The 2023 budget for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund is \$149.1 million. This account derives a portion of its funding from a fee levied on coal production sales, use, and transfers and supports reclamation program functions carried out by the States, Tribes, and OSMRE. The Fund

also supports OSMRE’s State reclamation program oversight and technical training, assistance, and technology transfer activities that support environmental restoration.

The budget includes \$115.0 million for the Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization program for grants to Appalachian States and qualifying Tribes for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development activities. These grants benefit coal communities by reclaiming formerly mined lands for beneficial economic uses, providing local, good-paying union jobs for skilled technicians and operators in some of the hardest

The Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative

is a coalition of citizens, the coal industry, and government dedicated to restoring forests on coal-mined lands in the Eastern United States

Goals:

- Plant more high-value hardwood trees on reclaimed coal-mined lands in Appalachia
- Increase the survival rates and growth rates of planted trees
- Expedite the establishment of forest habitat through natural succession

Why?



Trees are a renewable resource and a good investment



Reforestation restores recreation areas



Trees minimize soil erosion, remove CO², provide natural habitat, and help conserve water resources

In FY 2021,
OSMRE and its partners planted more than 1.75 million trees supported by the initiative



Stineman Refuse Pile.

Restored surface coal mining refuse site near South Fork, Pennsylvania. Following removal of 600,000 cubic yards of mining waste that was eroding into an adjacent river, the residents of South Fork along with visitors will be able to enjoy the reclaimed area's walking trails.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Photo.

hit communities in the Nation. These grants also address long-standing hazards and environmental degradation near coal communities, such as acid-mine drainage, to provide clean, livable surroundings.

The budget includes \$1.2 million to establish a Federal reclamation program for Tribes in Oklahoma, as required by the Supreme Court decision in the *McGirt v. Oklahoma* case.

Within the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund appropriation, the budget includes \$238,000 to replace aging combustion-engine vehicles with clean, electric vehicles.

Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$1.9 million are fully funded in the request.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS ^{1/}

(dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2023 Request with 2022 CR

	2022 CR		2023 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Regulation and Technology.....	298	92,768	312	122,076	+14	+29,308
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	100	11,371,613	115	149,142	+15	-11,222,471
Subtotal, Current.....	398	11,464,381	427	271,218	+29	-11,193,163
Permanent						
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	0	128,479	0	177,274	0	+48,795
Payments to States in Lieu of Coal Fee Receipts	0	35,303	0	27,064	0	-8,239
Supplemental Payments to UMWA Plans	0	712,944	0	721,681	0	+8,737
Subtotal, Permanent.....	0	876,726	0	926,019	0	+49,293
TOTAL, OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT	398	12,341,107	427	1,197,237	+29	-11,143,870

^{1/} Current funding amounts include supplemental appropriations and transfers. For further details see Highlights of Budget Changes tables for each account.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Regulation and Technology

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Environmental Protection	88,562	88,562	89,554	+992
Permit Fees	40	40	40	0
<i>Offsetting Collections—Permit Fees</i>	-4	-40	-40	0
Technology, Development and Transfer	14,765	14,765	16,147	+1,382
Financial Management	505	505	535	+30
Executive Direction and Administration	13,936	13,936	15,840	+1,904
Civil Penalties	44	100	100	0
<i>Offsetting Collections—Civil Penalties</i>	-44	-100	-100	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o rescission)	117,804	117,768	122,076	+4,308
Rescission of Prior-Year BA	-25,000	-25,000	0	+25,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ rescission)	92,804	92,768	122,076	+29,308

APPROPRIATION: Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Environmental Restoration	124,480	124,480	132,170	+7,690
Technology, Development and Transfer	3,608	3,608	4,287	+679
Financial Management	5,277	5,277	6,161	+884
Executive Direction and Administration	6,466	6,466	6,524	+58
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplemental, rescission, and transfer)	139,831	139,831	149,142	+9,311
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58)	0	+11,293,000	0	-11,293,000
Rescission of Prior-Year BA	-10,000	-4,753	0	+4,753
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58)	0	-56,465	0	+56,465
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplemental, rescission, and transfer)	129,831	11,371,613	149,142	-11,222,471

