STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERALS

LAND RECLAMATION DIVISION

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LAND RECLAMATION DIVISION MEMORANDUM NO. 83-8

TO: All Illinois Coal Mine Operators

FROM: Douglas Downing, Supervisor
Land Reclamation Division

DATE: August 22, 1983

RE: Submission of Notices of Completed Reclamation and Request for Release of Bond for the Interim Regulatory Program

As the result of several recent inquiries, the Department is notifying coal mine operators that request for release of bond and notices of completed reclamation submitted for areas permitted under the interim regulatory program must be accompanied by three sets of maps. The map accompanying the notice of completed reclamation or the request for bond release must delineate the February 1, 1983, coal face in order for the Department to expeditiously confirm the validity of the material submitted and process the surety bond release. The distribution of the three sets will be as follows: the original will be maintained in the official state file in the Springfield office; one will be on file with the field representative for use in processing the request; and one set will be submitted to the Office of Surface Mining in Springfield for inclusion in their files.

The following guidelines should be observed when submitting requests for release of bond and notices of completed reclamation:

(1) The notice of completed reclamation, form MLCR-6, for the interim regulatory program covers the period from May 3, 1978, through January 31, 1983, for areas from which coal has been extracted and areas utilized to facilitate mining operations which were not and are not being utilized to facilitate mining operations after January 31, 1983. A notice of completed reclamation may be submitted at any time.

(2) The request for interim regulatory program bond release may also include areas which have not been disturbed by mining operations and areas which are permitted by a permanent regulatory program permit and were affected by mining operations or utilized to facilitate mining operations on or after

February 1, 1983. Request for release of interim bond on areas unaffected by mining operations nor utilized to facilitate mining operations may be made at any time. Requests for release of interim bond for areas affected by mining operations or utilized to facilitate mining operations after February 1, 1983, may be made to the Department upon issuance of the permanent regulatory program permit covering the area. The request for release of interim bond under the conditions set forth in section 2 of this memorandum, may be submitted in letter form or may be submitted employing form MLCR-6 by designating it as a request for release of bond.

Reduction of surety bond coverage for areas included within permanent program permits can be accomplished either through Part 1807 of the rules for areas affected on or after February 1, 1983; and through Rule 1806.12(e) for areas included in permanent program permits which will not be affected or were affected during the interim program but will not be mined or utilized to facilitate permanent program mining operations.

If you have questions regarding bond release procedures, please contact the Division's reclamation specialist assigned to your operation or this office.