ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERALS
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LAND RECLAMATION DIVISION MEMORANDUM NO. 89-3

TO: All Surface and Underground Mine Operators

FROM: Douglas Downing

DATE: February 10, 1989

SUBJECT: New Requirement -- Sealed Reports and Quarterly Examinations Due for Impoundments, Refuse Piles and Coal Mine Waste Impounding Structures

Adoption of the Department's amended regulations on October 25, 1988, caused changes in the manner impoundments, refuse piles and coal mine waste impounding structures are to be inspected and examined. The regulations now require inspection and examination of all temporary and permanent impoundments including final cut, incline lakes and other incised impoundments.

Please note, inspections and examinations are different activities. Inspections are conducted by or under the direct supervision of a registered professional engineer with inspection reports prepared and sealed by a registered professional engineer. The person conducting the inspection must be experienced in construction of the structure being inspected. A copy of the inspection report shall be maintained at or near the mine site and shall be promptly (within 30 days) submitted to the Department. Examinations are conducted by a qualified person and a copy is to be maintained at the mine site; however, examination reports are not required to be sealed or sent to the Department.

The first quarterly inspections and examinations must be conducted prior to the close of the first calendar quarter of 1989. The first annual inspection under these regulations must be conducted prior to the end of October, 1989.

shall be retained at or near the mine site.

Coal Mine Waste: Impounding Structures

The regulations at 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.84(b)(1)/1817.84(b)(1) deal with coal mine waste impounding structures. These subsections reference 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.49(a) and (c)/1817.49(a) and (c). Consequently, initial inspection and certification by a qualified registered professional engineer is required showing construction was inspected regularly during construction and that, upon completion, the impoundment was constructed and maintained as designed. The certified report is required after each inspection (furnished to the Department). Also, yearly, a sealed report is to be furnished to the Department, certifying that the impoundment has been maintained as designed and in accordance with the approved plan and these regulations.

A copy of the sealed report shall be retained at or near the mine site.

Due to the reference to 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.49(a)/1817.49(a), 1816.84(b)/1817.84(b) coal mine waste impounding structures shall be examined quarterly by a qualified person as provided in 1816.49(a)(10)/ 1817.49(a)(10), or as required by MSHA. A copy of the examination record is to be maintained at or near the mine site and available for review by the Division's field inspectors.

The attached summary chart should clarify and help with understanding identity and applicability of these new duties.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office or your field inspector for further information or clarification.

DRAFT

I do hereby certify that the [refuse pile(s)] [impoundment(s)] designated as _____ _____ in (SCM-1, UCM-1) permit #_____ for Coal Surface Disturbance Permit submitted by _____ _____ has (have) been (is being) constructed:

(Check Appropriate Box)

[ ] in the designated location and according to the design approved in said application.

[ ] according to the approved design with the exception of the following minor changes:

For impoundment(s):
(Discuss in detail any changes such as location change, changes in drainage area served, pond dimensions, sizes of discharge structure, etc. Also discuss reasons for changes and justifications of new design if applicable. Submit as-built design information if change from approved design has occurred.)

For Refuse Pile(s):
(Discuss in detail any changes from approved plan, including reasons for change. Also, mention any appearances of instability, structural weakness, and other hazardous conditions.) Attach extra sheet(s) and or drawings, if appropriate.

This is (is not) a (Quarterly)(Annual) report for _____.
(indicate time period)

Name	Illinois Registration Number (Seal)
Firm	Phone Number
Address	
Signature	Date