ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
Office of Mines and Minerals
524 South Second Street, Springfield 62701-1787 Jim Edgar, Governor ● Brent Manning, Director

LAND RECLAMATION DIVISION
MEMORANDUM NO. 96-1

TO: ALL SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND COAL MINE OPERATORS

FROM: Scott Schmitz, Supervisor
Land Reclamation Division

DATE: February 6, 1996

RE: Yearly Revegetation Activities Report, Form SCML-4

In accordance with the of 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.116(b)(2) and 1817.116(b)(2), all permittees are required to submit by February 15 of each year a report of reclamation activities conducted on **permanent program** affected acres during the previous **calendar year** using a form provided by the Department.

The SCML-4 reporting form is attached. The Department is requiring revegetation reporting when any one of the following three (3) conditions have been met:

1. Tracts that have been final graded and initially seeded during the calendar year shall be reported in **Section 1** of the SCML-4 form. Final grading is defined in 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.101/1817.101. The report should reflect revegetation activities for those tracts which have been final graded and initially seeded during the previous calendar year only. There will be no requirement to keep reporting these tracts in subsequent years should cropping patterns change or when soil amendments are added.

[It is important to be clear in distinguishing between "tract" and "field". "Tracts" do not contain binding boundaries while fields refer to those areas designated for the purpose of proving productivity by using the Agricultural Lands Productivity Formula. "Field" boundaries can only be changed by approval of an insignificant permit revision. "Tracts" will normally be areas recently mined and reclaimed where designation of fields is too early to be practical.]

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Effective July 1, 1995, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources was created through the consolidation of the Illinois Department of Conservation, Department of Mines and Minerals, Abandoned Mined Lands Reclamation Council, the Department of Transportation's Division of Water Resources, and the Illinois State Museum and Scientific Surveys from the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources.

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2. Augmentation activity affects the revegetation responsibility period and must be reported, regardless of the year of final grading. Report these areas in **Section 2** on the SCML-4 form.

Augmentation such as deep subsoil ripping (deeper than 18 inches) and irrigation shall be reported by the particular augmentation method employed for each tract/field affected, along with the year of original final grading. Land planing, rill and gully repair, terrace construction and filling of wet spots are not ordinarily considered as "augmentation" unless determined by the Department.

3. Due to in-place time requirements for tree and shrub plantings, initial planting as well as replanting activities must be reported. All wetland planting activities must be reported as well. Report these activities in **Section 3** of the SCML-4 form.

When tree and shrub replanting is being reported the original planting rate and the year of the original planting shall be included in Section 3 to demonstrate compliance with the replanting requirements of 62 Ill. Adm. Code 1816.117(a)(5)/ 1817.117(a)(5). In other words, all tree and shrub plantings must be reported regardless of whether they constitute augmentation or not.

Please note that in each section of the SCML-4 form there is a space to indicate land use/capability. Post-mining land uses should always include the capability designation. Thus "high capability pasture" would be a correctly titled acreage, but "pasture" or "high capability" alone would be inappropriate. [The Department accepts the non-cropland capability designation for all underground mines.] The following codes may be used in lieu of the complete spelling:

PFC	-	Prime Farmland Cropland
HCC	-	High Capability Cropland
HCP	-	High Capability Pasture
HCW	-	High Capability Wildlife
HCF	-	High Capability Forest
HCR	-	High Capability Recreation
HCWW	-	High Capability Wetland Wildlife
NCCW	-	Non Cropland Capability Wildlife
NCCF	-	Non Cropland Capability Forest
NCCR	-	Non Cropland Capability Recreation
NCCI	-	Non Cropland Capability Industrial/Commercial
NCCWW	-	Non Cropland Capability Wetland/Wildlife
NCCP	-	Non Cropland Capability Pasture

The SCML-4 forms are to be submitted by permit, and submitted with copies of the approved post-mining land use and capability maps. The maps shall be planned as continuous maps so that reclamation activities conducted each year may be added and indicated on the maps by dates the activities were conducted. **Operators must submit two (2) complete copies**

As many operators have computerized tracking for all fields for past reporting and in-house record keeping, these reports may still be submitted to fulfill this reporting requirement.

If no activities falling into the three categories above were conducted on a given permit during the past calendar year, then no report is needed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your field representative, this office or Dean Spindler.

SCML-4 (Revised 2/2/96)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LAND RECLAMATION DIVISION

YEARLY REVEGETATION REPORT

DATE:

COMPANY: **MINE NAME:** **PIT NAME OR NO.:**

FOR CALENDAR YEAR: **PERMIT NO.:**

SECTION I			SECTION II					SECTION III						
FINAL GRADED ACREAGE			AUGMENTATION ACTIVITY					TREE/SHRUB OR WETLAND PLANTING						
TRACT/ FIELD #	ACRES FINAL GRADED	SPECIES (INITIAL)	TRACT/ FIELD #	LAND USE/ CAP.	ACRES AUG-MENTED	METHOD OF AUGMENT.	YEAR OF ORIGINAL FINAL GR.	TRACT/ FIELD #	LAND USE	ACRES PLANTED	SPECIES	ORIGINAL PLANTING RATE/AC.	YEAR OF ORIGINAL PLANTING	# TREES/ SCRUBS REPLANTED