

**Legal Authorities for
Abandoned Mine Reclamation
by a Certified State under the Surface
Mining Control and Reclamation Act:
The Montana Program**

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- I. Purpose
- II. Background of Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (“SMCRA”), in General and Title IV in Particular
 - A. SMCRA - Generally regulates the effects of surface coal mining.
 - B. Funding of AML under SMCRA Title IV
 - C. Abandoned Mine Reclamation Under Title IV of SMCRA

III. Background for Reclamation Act – Hazards at Abandoned Mine Sites

A. Abandoned Mined Sites - Definition

B. Hazards at Abandoned Mined Sites

IV. Implementation of Reclamation Under SMCRA by Montana – Authorization by OSM

A. Approved Reclamation Plan - Authority

B. Contents of the Plan

C. Montana certified December 27, 1989

V. Implementation of State Reclamation Plan by Montana AML

A. Phases of Activity

B. Pre-Construction Reclamation

C. Transition to Construction

D. Construction

E. Post Construction

Questions?