Mine Land Reclamation Program
The Abandoned Mine Land () Reclamation Program uses fees by present-day coal mining to reclaim coal mines before 1977. This makes areas safer for people the environment.  The Surface Control and Reclamation Act () of 1977 created this to use company fees reclaim coal mines abandoned 1977, to set standards today's coal companies as reclaim areas contemporaneously with mining, and to post to cover the cost companies are unable to current coal mines.
mine land areas
Abandoned pose risks to people the environment. They can ground water, emit toxic, and cause injury when infrastructures collapse.
State tribal AML programs rate mine areas on a scale of 1 to as defined by federal Mines rated 1 and _ are high priority and be addressed first, with _ few exceptions.
Priority Protection of public health, and property from extreme of adverse effects of mining practices pre-1977, including of land, water, and environment
Priority 2: of public health and from adverse effects of mining practices pre-1977, including of land, water, and environment
Priority 3: of land and water and the environment previously by adverse effects of mining practices pre-1977
date, coal mine companies paid \$9.2 billion in fees to reclaim coal-related areas. Those fees have \$1.5 billion in interest, has paid for a of the costs for care plans for the Mine Workers of America ().*%).
To see AML by location, visit OSMRE's site and click on '' in the navigation bar see data by completed,, and unfunded sites, click '.Summary.' image of Office Surface Mining Reclamation and data site.
Reclaimed areas
Since 1977, \$3.9 has been spent on construction of completed reclamation
When a state tribe has reclaimed identified priority coal sites, they be eligible for ".certification." source of their funds the Department of the Office of Surface Mining and Enforcement (OSMRE) changes; of receiving funds sourced AML fees, they receive sourced from the General of the US Treasury funds can be used a wider range of, including reclaiming abandoned hardrock sites. A certified state tribe may still have coal mine areas to
Five states and tribes are considered certified:, Montana, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Crow Tribe, the Hopi, and the Navajo Nation.
AML areas undergoing or reclamation
The federal AML Program distributes funds for to the state and AML programs with remaining 1 and 2 sites.
State and tribal AML use funds to prepare reclamation projects, including permitting, environmental assessments, site surveys, the development of reclamation After completing project

preparation, are used for construction reclaim the site.
, there are \$488M funded not completed projects, encompassing GPRA acres with an outstanding \$9.8 billion required reclaim remaining coal-related AML
For more information:
GAO report: Agencies should steps to improve information usda's and interior's potentially sites
Contacts for state tribal AML programs and offices
AML funding and
Chart shows the of total funds in AML reclamation program in 10.7 billion. 8.2 billion that total has been 2.5 billion of that has not been disbursed.
The AML database (-e-AMLIS-) accounts for construction costs doesn't include other work which a state or may spend AML funds are necessary for the of a site, such the costs of identification, assessments, and contracting, nor it include other types spending, such as set-asides emergency projects.
AML and disbursements
Fees paid coal mine operators fund AML Reclamation Program.
pay a per-ton fee OSMRE:
\$0.28/ton on mined coal
\$0.12/ton on coal ()*%subsurface)
\$0.08/ton on
Congress set the current when the fee was in the Tax Relief Health Care Act of lowering the rates 20% the original amounts set 1977.
Since 1978, coal industry has contributed billion to the AML, which has earned \$1.5 in interest.
Annual fee collection
Chart annual AML fee collection 1978.
Distribution to
Since passage of the Relief and Health Care of 2006, distribution of grants are mandatory. Prior 2006, distribution was subject Congress' annual appropriations process.
The amount states and receive each year in payments varies depending on fees collected during the FY (eg, FY 2014 fund FY 2015 grants).
The statute requires the to distribute AML Reclamation funds collected during the FY as follows:

and tribal share grants: states receive 50% of AML revenue originating from production in their states accounts for 50% of distribution of AML fees a given year. Certified receive amounts equal to respective share grant totals from the Treasury's General
Historic coal grants: of overall AML fees toward Historic Coal Grants non-certified states. OSMRE allocates Coal grants based on state's percentage of coal produced prior to 1977 created Historic Coal grants that states with large of abandoned mines, but current coal production, would be left without funds reclaim them.
Federal (including minimum program make-up): 20% of AML fees toward federal expenditures. These must first be used fund Minimum Program Make-Up to non-certified states. These that non-certified states receive least \$3 million a or the amount necessary reclaim their remaining high AML areas, whichever is OSMRE uses the remaining to fund operations, emergency, and other efforts.
states that received the grants from OSMRE in 2016 were Wyoming, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, and Illinois.
Chart shows the states received the largest grants the AML fund in 2016. Wyoming received \$59.2, Pennsylvania received \$43.0 million, Virginia received \$29.7 million, received \$17.1 million, and received \$15.7 million.
more information about grants, OSMRE grant distribution reports.
State and tribal spending
and tribal AML programs funds to prepare for through an extensive permitting, environmental assessments, site surveys, the development of reclamation Generally, states and tribes reclaim all Priority 1 2 coal sites before AML funds on Priority _ coal sites, but a of exceptions exist.
addition to scheduled reclamation, states and tribes can AML funds for related, such as:
Covering costs of administering and their AML programs
Funding AML reclamation projects
Setting annual funds (up to for projects related to mine drainage
OSMRE also a list of contacts states, Indian tribes, and offices.
The AML
Prior to 2006, companies paid more money into AML fund each year Congress chose to appropriate large, unappropriated balance grew time.
Growth of AML fund's unappropriated balance
Chart shows the growth the AML fund's unappropriated from 1989 to 2015 grew from around \$0.5 nearly \$2.5 billion dollars.
Interest on the fund
1990, Congress authorized the government to invest the balance in US Treasury Since then, the unappropriated has earned \$1.5 billion interest. Since 1996, almost

of the interest on AML fund has gone paying a portion of cost for some health plans for the United Workers of America.
to states and tribes
2007, the state and share of the unappropriated had reached \$1.34 billion.
Congress resolved to pay' and tribes' unappropriated balance in the form of " Balance Replacement Grants," which states and tribes 50% what companies operating in jurisdictions paid into the Fund from 2008–2014. Payments made over 7 years equal, annual installments.
paid states and tribes _ collective total of \$1.3 in roughly equal installments the course of seven This money did not directly from the AML, but was sourced directly the Treasury's General Fund.
The fund today
As November 2015, the fund's stood at \$2.5 billion reauthorization for AML fees in FY 2021. The balance has been divided different allocations to be starting in FY 2023, follows:
Allocation of balance
Chart shows division of allocations in unappropriated part of the reclamation fund. 60.4% is for historic coal grants is meant for federal, which are subject to appropriation. 4.7% is meant a reserve for UMWA care plans and retirement 18% is meant for and tribes.
Congress currently considering multiple proposals would reallocate money away the AML fund toward revitalization in areas of need with a history coal mining.